First Nation Forestry Program

Annual Report 1998-1999

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Natural Resources Canada / Ressources naturelles Canada

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada / Affaires [illegible] et du Nord Canada

In partnership with First Nations

The purpose of the First Nation Forestry Program is to improve economic conditions in status Indian communities with full consideration of the principles of sustainable forest management.

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First Nation Forestry Program

Annual Report 1998-1999

A Century *of*
Innovative Solutions

Cent ans *de*
solutions innovatrices

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Copies of this publication may be obtained from the First Nation Forestry Program office in your province or territory.
(See page 64 for a detailed list of contacts.)

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A Message from the Ministers

It is with great pleasure that we release the First Nation Forestry Program (FNFP) Annual Report for 1998-1999, highlighting the continuing success of this five-year program.

We would like to commend the members of the management committees, as well as the First Nations communities and organizations that have worked enthusiastically with public and private sector partners on a wide variety of activities.

The achievements of the program have exceeded expectations, as the projects highlighted in this report show. For instance, several Alberta First Nations received funding to train community members to be provincially certified firefighters and to establish fire crews, allowing them to sign contracts with the province for a full fire season. What was once a sporadic job opportunity has become a dependable summer employment and a business opportunity for the communities.

Another example is the Services Forestiers Atikamekw Aski Inc. (SFAA), which provides silvicultural operations for forestry industries in the St. Maurice Valley, Quebec. With FNFP help, it has implemented quality control procedures and is moving toward environmental certification. FNFP funding also helps them provide a training course and seminars for primary and secondary school students.

Tapping into the strengths of traditional skills and Aboriginal cultural values is key to the FNFP's success. The importance of using traditional knowledge to sustainably develop First Nations' forest resources is highlighted in a feature article by Chief Elmer Derrick of the Fireweed Clan, Gitsegukla First Nation.

This year's report focuses on projects that underline the importance of First Nations communities, governments and the forestry sector working together to achieve local goals. By integrating economic, social, spiritual and traditional values, First Nations communities are playing an important part in realizing the national goal of sustainable forest management.

An independent review in November 1998, prepared by an Aboriginal consulting company in New Brunswick, confirmed the benefits of the FNFP approach. Its key findings and recommendations are summarized in this report.

We look forward to the continuing successes of the First Nation Forestry Program.

Ralph Goodale,
Minister of Natural Resources

Robert Nault,
Minister of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development

For more information about the FNFP and the many related initiatives, visit the FNFP Internet site at: http://www.fnfp.gc.ca

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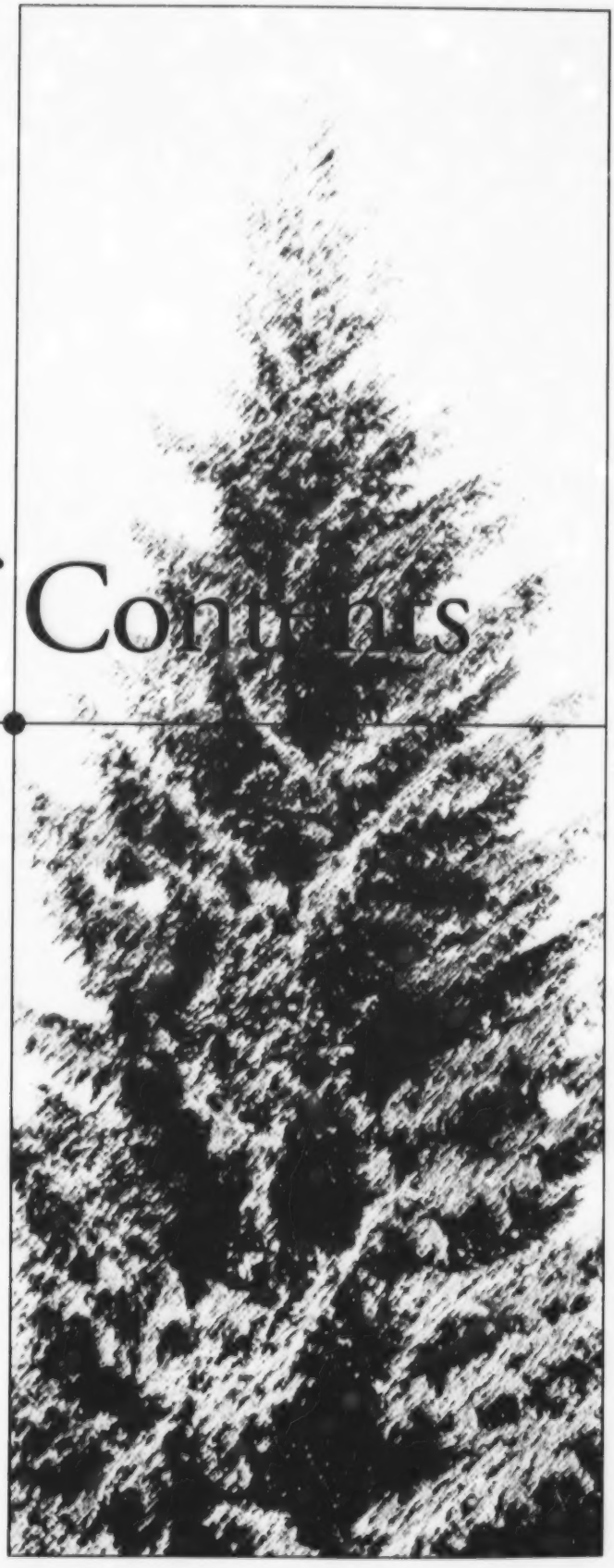

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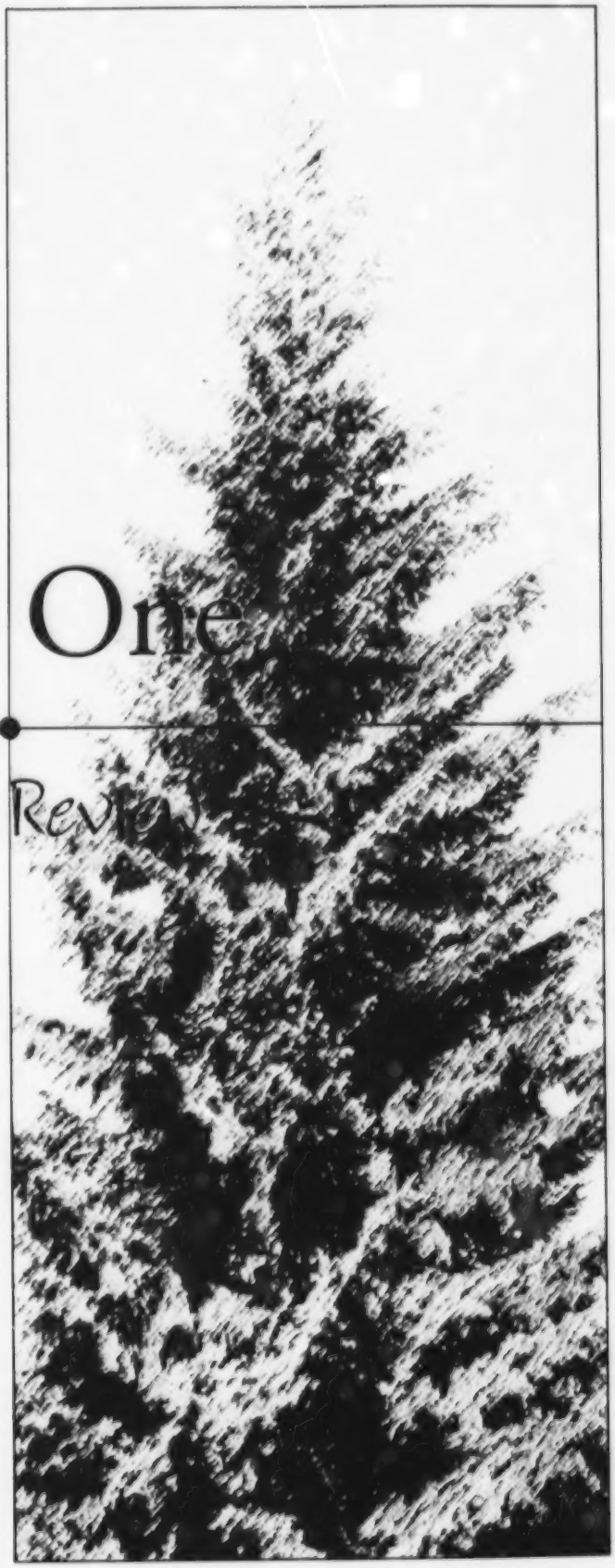
Chapter One

The Year in Review



The Year in Review

Highlights for 1998-1999

- The First Nation Forestry Program (FNFP) received 283 proposals for projects having a total value of $25.6 million including partner contributions.
- The FNFP supported 211 proposals with $4.1 million in federal funding.
- First Nations and other partners supplemented federal funding with over $9.7 million.
- FNFP projects accounted for over 11 thousand person weeks of employment affecting 499 persons, 13 workshops and conferences, the preparation/updating of 20 forest management plans, the preparation of 24 business plans and 9 feasibility studies.
- The first national provincial and territorial management committee meeting held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan provided First Nations the opportunity to formally discuss their experiences and successes with the program.
- The Interim Review Report, completed during 1998-1999, strongly endorsed the FNFP. It states that the FNFP allows more First Nations to benefit and be involved in forestry because of its flexibility, business approach, ability to entertain off-reserve initiatives, and, mechanisms for First Nation input into its management and administration.

Program Purpose and Objective

The FNFP is a national federal program designed to improve economic conditions in status Indian communities with full consideration of the principles of sustainable forest management. This goal includes four objectives towards which federal funding is directed. They are as follows:

1. to enhance the capacity of First Nations to operate and participate in forest-based businesses and increase the number of long-term jobs in forestry for First Nation members (business capacity enhancement);
2. to increase First Nation cooperation and partnerships (cooperation and partnerships);
3. to investigate the feasibility of trust funds, capital pools, or other similar mechanisms for financing First Nation forestry development (funding mechanisms); and
4. to enhance the capacity of First Nations to sustainably manage reserve forests (reserve forest management capacity).

Federal Funding and Expenditures by Program Objective

The FNFP supports First Nations in their pursuit of economic self-sufficiency through the implementation of forest-related initiatives. FNFP funding over the five-year period (1996-1997 to 2000-2001) is $24.9 million. Of this amount, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) and the Department of Natural Resources (NRCan) contribute $17.0 million and $7.9 million, respectively (Table 1). As shown, funding decreases successively each year; from $5.9 million in 1996-1997 to $4.0 million in 2000-2001. In 1998-1999, the FNFP budget was $5.0 million.

Program activities were undertaken in all provinces and territories in 1998-1999. As in previous years, demand for financial assistance to undertake various forestry-related initiatives was strong. The program received 283 proposals having a total value of $25.6 million including partner contributions. Of these, 211 were supported having a total estimated value of $13.9 million (Table 2).

Table 3 tabulates the expenditure of the program's $5.0 million budget by program objective. During 1998-1999, the FNFP expended $1.8 million on business capacity enhancement (Objective 1), $1.1 million on cooperation and partnerships (Objective 2), $33 thousand on funding mechanisms (Objective 3) and $1.2 million on reserve forest management capacity (Objective 4). O & M expenditures (operating and minor capital) totalled $849 thousand, or 17.1%, of the funds expended. O & M funds are FNFP funds used for First Nation leadership and skills development, those associated with provincial and territorial management committee meetings, preparation and distribution of communications and other material, and program administration and delivery.

Table 1

Five-year Funding Profile 1996-2001

Funding Source	1996-1997 $ million	1997-1998 $ million	1998-1999 $ million	1999-2000 $ million	2000-2001 $ million
DIAND[1]	5.00	3.75	3.25	2.75	2.25
NRCan (CFS)[2]	0.90	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
Sub-total	**5.90**	**5.50**	**5.00**	**4.50**	**4.00**
Other Sources[3]	1.77	2.20	2.50	2.70	2.80
	(30%)	(40%)	(50%)	(60%)	(70%)
Total	**7.67**	**7.70**	**7.50**	**7.20**	**6.80**

[1] Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
[2] Department of Natural Resources (Canadian Forest Service)
[3] Includes increasing First Nation share of project costs and developing partnerships with other interested parties.

Financial Leverage and Creating Partnerships

Since the program's inception, applicants for program assistance are encouraged to seek other partners who can contribute to overall project costs. The anticipated annual levels of these contributions are indicated in Table 1. For 1998-1999, $2.5 million in funding was expected to be contributed by First Nations and other partners.

The ability of the FNFP to attract funding from First Nations and other sources (federal and provincial government agencies and the private sector) has been a strong feature of the FNFP since launched in 1996. In 1998-1999, FNFP contribution funding of $4.12 million was matched by $9.7 million in funding from First Nation and other partners. This represents $7.2 million more than initially expected. Of the $9.7 million, First Nations contributed $3.7 million, while other sources contributed

Table 2

Summary of FNFP Expenditures, Partnership Funding, Proposals Approved and Person Weeks of Employment Created 1998-1999

Province/Territory	FNFP Funds			First Nation & Other Sources of Funding $000	Number of Proposals		Person Weeks of Employment Created
	Budgets $000	Expenditures [1] $000					
		Contribution Funds	O&M [2] Funds		Submitted	Approved	
British Columbia	1,016.4	887.8	120.5	1,636.4	96	56	1,501
Alberta	469.4	401.4	68.0	315.4	33	22	537
Saskatchewan	434.8	370.3	64.5	607.5	18	15	679
Manitoba	354.1	297.6	56.5	128.5	20	13	527
Ontario	954.4	798.4	156.0	2,958.0	30	27	1,019
Quebec	824.1	687.5	134.4	2,567.4	27	22	3,980
New Brunswick	262.9	225.1	37.8	1,035.1	14	13	1,980
Prince Edward Island	13.7	10.9	2.8	13.7	1	1	17
Nova Scotia	190.6	167.6	23.0	163.0	21	21	213
Newfoundland	13.7	10.9	2.8	13.7	2	2	220
Northwest Territories	113.6	102.1	11.5	95.9	10	8	195
Yukon Territory	109.1	109.1	0.0	111.5	7	7	148
National	243.2	56.2	171.1	0.0	4	4	7
Total	5,000.0	4,124.9	848.9	9,746.0	283	211	11,023
Total Value ($000)					$25,576.1	$13,870.9	

[1] Estimate of expenditures subject to audit.
[2] O&M funding (operating and minor capital) are FNFP funds expended on items such as First Nation forestry development initiatives, PTMC meetings, program delivery costs, training workshops, and administration.

approximately $6.0 million (Table 4). Funding from First Nation sources included $3.0 million from cash sources and $738 thousand from in-kind contributions. This funding level reflects the importance many First Nations attach to forestry throughout rural Canada in terms of the effort they put in seeking community financial support for their projects. Funding from other partners included $5.4 million in cash and $626 thousand in-kind. Partner funding exceeded First Nation contributions by $2.3 million. The non-Aboriginal partners working with First Nations have provided outside expertise and advice that First Nations may not have had otherwise. As a result, these partnership arrangements have ensured the successful completion of the majority of projects and have opened new doors for employment opportunities for many First Nation community members.

FNFP contribution funding combined with funding from First Nations and other partners brought the total value of all approved projects to

Table 3

Summary of FNFP Expenditures

1998-1999

Province/Territory	Expenditure of Federal Funds				O&M [1]	Total [2]
	Objective 1 Business Capacity Enhancement $000	Objective 2 Cooperation and Partnerships $000	Objective 3 Funding Mechanisms $000	Objective 4 Reserve Forest Management $000	$000	$000
British Columbia	522.1	166.7	0.0	199.0	120.5	1,008.3
Alberta	196.3	138.6	0.0	66.5	68.0	469.4
Saskatchewan	14.0	338.7	0.0	17.6	64.5	434.8
Manitoba	202.9	43.6	21.5	29.6	56.5	354.1
Ontario	454.1	287.2	0.0	57.1	156.0	954.4
Quebec	309.4	66.6	0.0	311.5	134.4	821.9
New Brunswick	38.0	36.5	0.0	150.6	37.8	262.9
Prince Edward Island	9.4	0.0	0.0	1.5	2.8	13.7
Nova Scotia	0.0	0.0	0.0	167.6	23.0	190.6
Newfoundland	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.9	2.8	13.7
Northwest Territories	58.8	9.0	0.0	34.3	11.5	113.6
Yukon Territory	0.0	1.0	0.0	108.1	0.0	109.1
National	11.7	11.7	11.7	21.1	171.1	227.3
Total	1,816.7	1,099.6	33.2	1,175.4	848.9	4,973.8
% of the Total	36.5	22.1	0.7	23.6	17.1	100.0

[1] O&M funding (operating and minor capital) are FNFP funds expended on items such as First Nation forestry development initiatives, PTMC meetings, program delivery costs, training workshops, and administration.
[2] Estimate of expenditures subject to audit.

$13.9 million (Table 2, Table 5). The FNFP contribution to approved projects was 29.6%. The program provided essential seed funding to First Nations that allowed them to lever additional dollars from their community, the private sector and government agencies. Although the FNFP share of project expenditures is minimal at 29.6%, as stated in the Interim Review of the FNFP completed in the fall, 1998 most projects would not have been started without the FNFP.

Economic Impact

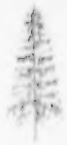
The effect of funding from First Nation partners greatly increases the economic impact of the FNFP. Table 5 tabulates total program expenditures (FNFP expenditures plus those of First Nations plus those of other partners) using the same categories as Table 3. As shown, the financial assistance provided by First Nations and other sources in 1998-1999 had a significant impact on the program and is integral to it's effective functioning. FNFP contribution funds of

Table 4

Summary of Contributions to FNFP Projects by First Nations and Others 1998-1999

Province/Territory	First Nations		Other Sources [1]		Total $000
	Cash $000	In-Kind $000	Cash $000	In-Kind $000	
British Columbia	288.2	273.6	942.1	132.5	1,636.4
Alberta	225.7	10.8	78.9	0.0	315.4
Saskatchewan	154.2	89.5	363.8	0.0	607.5
Manitoba	86.3	17.4	24.8	0.0	128.5
Ontario	1,229.9	193.9	1,327.4	206.8	2,958.0
Quebec	748.6	0.0	1,818.8	0.0	2,567.4
New Brunswick	0.0	25.3	723.8	286.0	1,035.1
Prince Edward Island	9.2	4.5	0.0	0.0	13.7
Nova Scotia	90.0	73.0	0.0	0.0	163.0
Newfoundland	111.4	0.0	2.2	0.0	113.6
Northwest Territories	29.0	10.5	55.2	1.2	95.9
Yukon Territory	6.0	40.0	65.5	0.0	111.5
National	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	2,978.5	738.5	5,402.5	626.5	9,746.0

[1] Federal and provincial government agencies and the private sector.



$4.12 million for projects allowed First Nations to lever additional funding to bring the overall value of project initiatives to $13.9 million.

The employment effect of these expenditures is summarized in Table 6. In 1998-1999, the program generated 11,023 person weeks of employment for First Nations in many different areas of forestry-related activities. Other benefits included 13 capacity building and training workshops, on-site technology transfer sessions and business development opportunity conferences, the preparation of 24 business plans and the preparation/updating of 20 management plans.

Total Expenditures: FNFP, First Nations and Other

In 1998-1999, the greater proportion of total expenditures were in the two areas of business capacity enhancement (Objective 1) and cooperation and partnerships (Objective 2) (Table 5). Of total expenditures, 67% were associated with Objectives 1 and 2, compared to 69% in 1997-1998. Expenditures in these two program areas were particularly strong (>80%) in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Prince Edward Island. As in the preceding two years, initiatives associated

Table 5

Summary of FNFP, First Nations, and Other Expenditures

1998-1999

Province/Territory	Expenditure of Total Contributions				O&M [1]	Total
	Objective 1 Capacity Enhancement $000	Objective 2 Cooperation and Partnerships $000	Objective 3 Financing Mechanisms $000	Objective 4 Reserve Forest Management $000	$000	$000
British Columbia	1,229.1	960.5	0.0	334.6	120.5	2,644.7
Alberta	353.1	236.3	0.0	127.4	68.0	784.8
Saskatchewan	19.7	935.3	0.0	22.8	64.5	1,042.3
Manitoba	295.3	52.6	32.0	46.2	56.5	482.6
Ontario	2,541.2	1,101.5	0.0	113.7	156.0	3,912.4
Quebec	1,199.8	295.5	0.0	1,759.6	134.4	3,389.3
New Brunswick	212.7	204.4	0.0	843.1	37.8	1,298.0
Prince Edward Island	23.1	0.0	0.0	1.5	2.8	27.4
Nova Scotia	28.0	97.0	38.0	167.6	23.0	353.6
Newfoundland	0.0	0.0	0.0	124.5	2.8	127.3
Northwest Territories	110.7	9.0	0.0	78.3	11.5	209.5
Yukon Territory	0.0	2.3	0.0	218.3	0.0	220.6
National	11.7	11.7	11.7	21.1	171.1	227.3
Total	6,024.4	3,906.1	81.7	3,858.7	848.9	14,719.8
% of the Total	40.9	26.5	0.6	26.2	5.8	100.0

[1] O&M funding (operating and minor capital) are FNFP funds expended on items such as First Nation forestry development initiatives, PTMC meetings, program delivery costs, training workshops, and administration.

with reserve forest management under Objective 4 remained an important area of program activity for First Nations. In Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and the Yukon Territory, for example, expenditures on forestry related activities under Objective 4 exceeded 50% of total expenditure. Initiatives on reserve forest management activities in eastern Canada does not suggest that these activities are not as important in western Canada. Lack of funds, the high cost of forest management activities and the number of proposals seeking financial assistance has forced management committees to concentrate mainly on Objectives 1 and 2, particularly in British Columbia where the management committee must deal with over 190 bands.

In 1998-1999, other than the small amount spent nationally on Objective 3, funding mechanisms, the Manitoba and Nova Scotia management committees were the only committees to expend a portion of their budget on Objective 3 related activities.

Table 6

FNFP Trend Statistics
1996-1997 to 1998-1999

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Uses of Federal Funds ($000's)			
Business Capacity Enhancement	2,208.9	2,221.1	1,816.7
Cooperation and Partnerships	676.1	1,120.2	1,099.6
Funding Mechanisms	168.0	23.7	33.2
Reserve Forest Management Capacity	2,087.0	1,387.6	1,175.4
Other Uses	635.9	781.5	848.9
Sources of Funds ($000's)			
FNFP Contribution Funds Expended	5,775.9	4,752.6	4,124.9
First Nation Sources			
Cash	3,952.5	5,791.9	2,978.5
In-Kind	213.5	848.5	738.5
Other Sources[1]			
Cash	1,808.9	4,751.3	5,402.5
In-Kind	105.9	569.7	626.5
Benefits			
Person Weeks of Employment	7,219	13,892	11,023
Training Workshops/Conferences	6	13	13
Business Plans Developed	47	28	24
Formal Management Plans Prepared/Updated	12	13	20
Funding Requests			
Number	329	306	283
Value ($000's)	57,200.7	34,148.4	25,576.1
Funding Responses			
Number	175	208	211
Value ($000's)	11,742.5	17,495.4	13,870.9

[1] Federal and provincial government agencies and the private sector

Program Delivery, Management and Communications

The FNFP management structure comprises the National Management Committee (NMC) and provincial and territorial management committees (PTMCs).

The NMC membership includes one representative each from the Canadian Forest Service (CFS), the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the First Nations community. PTMCs consist of CFS, DIAND and First Nations representatives. In several instances, representatives from the provincial government and forest industry are invited to sit on the management committee. In 1998-1999, the British Columbia, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories management committees were the only committees to have representatives from the provincial/territorial government and/or forest industry. This government and industry representation provides these committees with additional expertise, experience and advice in discussions related to forest management and other matters related to forestry within the province or territory. It also provides First Nations with important linkages to the provincial/territorial government and the forest industry.

1. National Management Committee

At the national level, the NMC provides overall direction for the program. Responsibilities include, but are not restricted to: developing policy; setting standards and procedures for the administration and management of the program; providing annual funding allocations to the PTMCs; establishing cooperative arrangements with other federal departments and programs; and identifying and directing the implementation of national initiatives.

The NMC met on four occasions in 1998-1999 to conduct business related to the ongoing direction and implementation of the program. The following are a few selected action items resulting from NMC discussion on the specific agenda topic:

June, 1998:

- approval for a national meeting of provincial and territorial management committees for Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in February, 1999.
- support for the "International Conference on Non-Timber Forest Products" to be held in Kenora, Ontario scheduled for the fall, 1999. The NMC First Nation representative would represent the NMC on the program steering committee.

December, 1998:

- approval of the draft FNFP Annual Report, 1997-98; its release date and communication plan.
- approval of the annual FNFP report (1998-99) for the Minister, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and Minister, Natural Resources Canada.
- approval of the schedule to present an overview of the findings of the FNFP Interim Review to the ADM, Lands and Trusts Services, DIAND, and the ADM, Canadian Forest Service, in January, 1999.

January, 1999

- discussion and approval of proposed responses to the 22 Interim Review recommendations for consideration at the national provincial and territorial management committee meeting scheduled for February 10-12 in Saskatoon.
- approval of the schedule for the public release and distribution of the FNFP Interim Review.

March, 1999

- approval of the schedule to prepare a background information document to contain relevant data and other information on First Nation forestry as a basis for beginning to address the issue of future funding following the expiry of the current program.
- discussion and response to the letter and recommendations from the First Nation ad hoc Committee on Forestry established at the national provincial and territorial management committee meeting, Saskatoon, February, 1999.

2. Provincial and Territorial Management Committees

PTMCs were busy with program management and implementation in 1998-1999. Following are some highlights of activities for a number of PTMCs during the year:

- The New Brunswick Management Committee (MC) members participated in the "Sharing Knowledge/Aboriginal Workshop" held in April,1998 in Sussex, New Brunswick. The meeting encouraged sharing of common interests and values to lead to a better understanding of sustainable forest management for all concerned parties.
- The Prince Edward Island MC reviewed their 5-year strategic plan. Additional community consultation resulted in a strategic plan that more accurately reflected the community's expectations and increased awareness and interest for the Lennox Island eco-tourism project.
- In Quebec, the annual meeting of the FNFP General Assembly of Aboriginal Administrators took place in February, 1999. Forty representatives from 17 First Nation communities, DIAND, CFS and the Quebec Department of Natural Resources participated. The participants discussed the 1998-1999 overview of operations and defined FNFP delivery parameters for the upcoming year. The importance of building regular ties between the Waswanipi Cree Model Forest and the General Assembly of Aboriginal Administrators was agreed upon. Of particular importance, the Assembly agreed to appoint representatives to the Quebec MC, effective 1999-2000.
- The Ontario MC met six times and supported many viable projects such as biomass heating for remote communities, partnership development and joint ventures in harvesting and value-added manufacturing and business development in the areas of fire-fighting, forest management services, and non-timber forest products. A workshop, "Alternative Heating Options for Remote Communities: A Forest Biomass Approach" held in Thunder Bay, in March 1999 was financially supported by the program.

- The Manitoba MC met several times during 1998-1999 to review proposals, allocate funds and discuss forestry issues of interest to Manitoba's First Nations. Through FNFP funding, First Nation committee members were able to attend workshops and conferences in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Thunder Bay, Ontario, and the United States. These events provided committee members with a broader perspective of forestry activities conducted by Aboriginal people in different regions of the country and internationally which provided exposure to a wide range of forestry issues and opportunities. A forestry forum entitled, "A Dialogue with First Nations on Forestry in Manitoba" was held in The Pas, Manitoba in March, 1999. This forum brought Manitoba's major forest industries and First Nations to the table to discuss forestry issues and opportunities in the province.

- In Saskatchewan, the MC met on four occasions during the year. One meeting was held at the National Aboriginal Forestry Association/Prince Albert Grand Council conference "Celebrating Partnerships" in Prince Albert in September, 1998. Project highlights for the year focussed on tree planting and training initiatives. Sixteen members from the Makwa/Island Lake project were trained to plant seedlings and operate various kinds heavy equipment. Further, 25 members of the Agency Chiefs Tribal Council project were trained in timber scaling and the operation of crawler tractors, loaders and log haulers. At Sturgeon Lake, 110,000 seedlings were planted in 2 weeks by 10 members of the community.

- The Alberta MC met on the Hay River Dene reserve in the Northwest Territories in October, 1998 to participate in the first ever territorial forestry conference, "Northern Forests-Northern Challenges: Establishing a Cooperative Approach to Forest Development". The MC participated in a field tour of the Kiska Waptan Ta-Otha Ltd. log building training initiative. The purpose was to enhance membership awareness of projects as well as committee visibility. Other participants in the tour included First Nation representatives from Treaty 7 and Treaty 8, DIAND and the CFS.

- The British Columbia MC met twice during 1998-1999. Most notably, a subcommittee of the MC was established to investigate collaborative working relationships with other agencies and potential sources of funding. As part of this initiative, the MC sponsored a meeting with public and private agencies in Vancouver in November, 1998 to begin the process of exploring linkages and opportunities. Potential partners who attended the meeting included Aboriginal Business Canada, BC Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, BC Ministry of Forests, Forest Renewal BC, Post-Delgamuukw Capacity Panel and representatives from the forest industry. As a result of the meeting, the MC presented their recommendations regarding First Nations capacity building in forestry in British Columbia to the Capacity Panel in December.

- The Northwest Territory MC participated in a project review workshop in Yellowknife in February, 1999 to listen to program participants describe project activities to date. The workshop resulted in an effective exchange of information

and enhanced visibility for both the program and the committee membership and structure. First Nation members of the NWT MC also commissioned a report entitled "The First Nation Forestry Program - The Next Five Years", to examine future options and funding requirements.

3. Communications

Communicating the achievements of the program is an important element of the FNFP. Providing information to the client and other interested Canadians allows for a better understanding of the purpose of the program, the kinds of activities undertaken, and benefits derived. Transparent and open communication provides a level of accountability for program activities and the expenditure of public funds.

In 1998-1999, the program supported a number of communications initiatives throughout the year. For example, the FNFP display was exhibited at a number of national and regional events. In western Canada, these events included the the Arctic Institute of North America conference "Community Development from the Inside Out" held in Calgary, Alberta in August; the National Aboriginal Forestry Association/Prince Albert Grand Council's "Celebrating Partnerships" conference held in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan in September; the "Northern Forests-Northern Challenges: Establishing a Cooperative Approach to Forest Development" conference held in Hay River, Northwest Territories in October; the "Innovations in Forest Science" tour for the CFS centennial celebrations in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Prince Albert in November and December; and, the National PTMC meeting held in Saskatoon in February, 1999.

In eastern Canada, the display was exhibited at the "Cultural Exchange Workshop" held at the Red Bank Reserve in New Brunswick in September, 1998; the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Institute of Forestry in Ottawa in October; the Canada Winter Games in Corner Brook, Newfoundland in January; the First Nations Career Expo at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton in April, 1998; and, a CFS-sponsored workshop entitled, "Alternative Heating Options for Remote Communities: A Forest Biomass Approach" held in Thunder Bay, Ontario in March, 1999.

Additionally, conferences, workshops and training sessions play a significant role in the FNFPs communication initiatives. The program financially supports First Nation participation at many of these events. The following lists a few of these events that took place during 1998-1999:

- The National PTMC meeting held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in February, 1999 provided a forum for First Nations to discuss different aspects of the program through presentations. It also presented an opportunity to allow First Nations to network with their colleagues from across the country. Approximately 100 people attended the meeting, of which some 60 were First Nation PTMC representatives.

- The British Columbia MC sponsored a number of workshops throughout the year. A non-timber forest products workshop and a value-added workshop were held in Port Alberni that

attracted approximately 40 First Nation participants and others. A three-day workshop on business development and marketing for First Nation artists using wood in their crafts (masks, totem poles, and other wood products) was held on the Kwakiutk Band Fort Rupert Reserve and attended by 23 artists. A total of 4 six- day "Aboriginal Business: Your Future in Forestry" business training workshops were held in First Nation communities throughout the year. A total of 80 First Nation participants attended the workshops and received training in business structures and planning, funding, promotion and marketing, and forestry entrepreneurship.

- In partnership with FedNor (the federal Economic Development Initiative in Northern Ontario), the FNFP supported 23 First Nations attendance at the "Alternative Heating Options for Remote Communities: A Forest Biomass Approach" held in Thunder Bay, Ontario in March, 1999.

Newsletters are another important means of communicating program activities. The British Columbia, Quebec, and New Brunswick MCs published and distributed their newsletter, 'the Bridge', 'Wapahke', and 'Nabooktök', respectively, to a broad audience of First Nations and non-Aboriginal interest groups. The FNFP was also featured in a number of Aboriginal newspapers. The Alberta Native News published an article called "Blood Tribe Pilot Project Assesses Value of its Forest Land" in November, 1998 and the article "Long Lake Forest Nursery: Creating Economic Independence", appeared in the November, 1998 issue of the Native Journal. The FNFP video featuring Steve Ginnish, Eel Ground First Nation, New Brunswick, was aired on Fundy cable in the Fall, 1998.

The FNFP web site - www.fnfp.gc.ca - has proved to be a valuable means of communicating program and other related activities to a wide audience nationally and internationally. Since its launch in January 1998, over 30,000 people have taken advantage of the information displayed on the site. The site is maintained and updated frequently as new information becomes available.

FNFP Interim Review

Under the FNFP Memorandum of Understanding signed by NRCan and DIAND in 1996, the National Management Committee was obliged to undertake an independent review of the program prior to March 31, 1998. The purpose of the review was to determine whether the program's purpose and objectives were being met and to identify and recommend measures for improvement.

The firm commissioned to review the program conducted site visits in each province and territory, with the exception of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island where interviews with First Nation communities and the FNFP management committee were conducted by telephone. In total, 122 personal interviews were conducted with First Nation clients, program officials and FNFP stakeholders, such as the forest industry and provincial and territorial government representatives. Additionally, 58 telephone interviews were conducted with First Nations who were not participating in the program. During the course of the review, a total of 270 people provided

input into the process through interviews, meetings and presentations.

The review was guided by an Advisory Committee with representation from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Canadian Forest Service (Natural Resources Canada), and a representative of the First Nation Program Advisory Group. The Committee was chaired by the Evaluation Manager, Audit and Evaluation Branch, Natural Resources Canada. The study was conducted by Han Martin Associates, an Aboriginal consulting firm, in a joint venture with Agfor Inc. Both companies are located in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

The report "First Nation Forestry Program (FNFP): Interim Report" provided 22 recommendations to improve FNFP delivery mechanisms and to ensure the program moved towards its intended objectives. The following are a number of highlights from the report:

- the program is making a positive difference in enhancing First Nation capacity to undertake forest-related businesses;
- that while it is early to say whether the objectives will be achieved, the program appears to be moving in the right direction;
- the involvement of First Nations on the provincial/territorial management committees was found to be positive and an important factor in enhancing capacity;
- the program does largely address First Nation forestry-related needs. However, within the five-year duration of the program, many First Nations indicated that the five-year time frame for the program was inadequate. A number of First Nations have had no exposure to or experience with the forestry sector in any form; hence, only some have had the opportunity to participate for some aspects of capacity building;
- the FNFP is congruent with the visions and needs of 85% of First Nations participating in the program;
- the involvement of First Nations in the "management" of the FNFP through the PTMCs is a progressive move that is widely appreciated by participating First Nations;
- most initiatives would not have proceeded without FNFP funding; and
- "the FNFP is more than a program, it is a concept and a process that ushers in a new relationship between First Nations, government and the private sector."

Chapter Two

The Gitxsan Na

Traditional Knowledge and Sustai

The Gitxsan Nation:

Traditional Knowledge and Sustainable Development[1]

gwelx yeh insxw

Chief Elmer Derrick

The Gitxsan term, **gwelx yeh insxw**, is applied to the treasures that are handed down from generation to generation.

These treasures include the territories and resources that belong to each House group. The Gitxsan recognize specific territories—the **lax'yip** (land and resources)—that are owned and governed by individual Houses. Lineage-based territoriality is a defining element of Gitxsan social and political entities. Accordingly, the recognition and honouring of the link between Houses, clans, and territories are a major part of the ceremonies and institutions of Gitxsan culture.

Governance of each territory is recognized by Gitxsan law to be allocated through the Houses to the responsible chiefs. A complex regulatory system addresses access and use of each House territory by House members and others who satisfy the requirements of Gitxsan laws. Each House has **dax'ghet**, an authority that allows House members to determine the utility of its **lax'yip** in accordance with Gitxsan **ayookw** (laws).

Totems, like this pole at the Gitxsan village of Gitwangak, tell the history of the House group and signify jurisdiction over a territory.

[1] This article was prepared and written by Yoobx, a Chief from the Fireweed Clan in the village of Gitsegukla. He is also known as Elmer Derrick and works for the Gitxsan Nation.

The primary unit of governance in the Gitxsan civilization is the House. Citizenship in a House is determined by the clan lineage of a Gitxsan's mother. Rights and title are therefore passed on to the next generation through the mother. Authority and government power is passed on through the line of descent—the mother's House.

Other birthrights include names, crests, songs, history, spirit and supernatural dances that belong to the House. These treasures are passed down from each generation to the next at feasts. The Gitxsan feast is not just a social event as suggested by the name. The feast is the institution through which the Gitxsan govern their society. The feast deals with the confirmation of inheritance and with succession to rank and property. There is a time for celebration, nourishment, and for dramatic performance. It is at a feast where economic arrangements are settled and disputes resolved. Traditions are confirmed and customs are observed and honoured. More importantly, the relationships between and among Houses are confirmed and the boundaries of each territory are reaffirmed. The fundamental principles of democracy of public witnessing and ratification are strictly adhered to.

The oral histories include the origin of the House group—back to the ice ages and the years beyond. The recent history of each House can be traced to new community formations within the last several hundred years. Activities that take place between and among House groups are governed by Gitxsan laws and institutions. This allows young people to learn through their culture—which means through their own language and on their own territories.

The Gitxsan **gwelx ye' insxw** is all of the assets, tangible and intangible, held by the Gitxsan in perpetuity for the generations not yet born. The Canadian Constitution has recognized and affirmed Gitxsan **gewlx ye' insxw** as Aboriginal rights and title that, as such, are protected by the laws of the Canada.

Members of a Gitxsan House group at a feast. The feast hall is the forum where business, social and political decisions are legitimized in the traditional system.

Delgamuukw and the Gitxsan Nation

When the Delgamuukw decision came down from the Supreme Court of Canada in December 1997, the Gitxsan celebrated. They celebrated the fact that the laws of Canada had affirmed what they always believed. The debate, as to whether the 1982 Constitutional clauses that recognized and affirmed Aboriginal rights were of value, had perplexed the Gitxsan. They knew that their box of treasures was full. Through the Delgamuukw decision, the Supreme Court had affirmed their freedom to be Gitxsan within the legal framework of Canada.

The Supreme Court of Canada had once again affirmed that Gitxsan title, which has been neither surrendered nor validly extinguished, continues to exist. This means that the laws that were used to alienate them from their lands and resources had to be challenged. Ways had to be found to reconcile the pre-existence of Gitxsan society with the sovereignty of the Crown. The Supreme Court had stated the obvious: both parties have to coexist on their own terms.

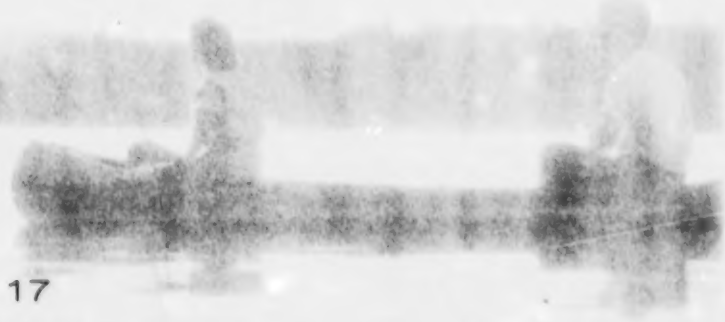
The challenges facing the Gitxsan Nation were and are monumental. Although all of the House groups have remained intact, provincial and federal laws and policies weakened some of them. The Aboriginal policies were and are designed to transform Aboriginal people from different nations into Indians. For the most part, the laws of Canada continue to attempt to assimilate Aboriginal people into a common bowl concept. Most Aboriginal communities are governed by Band Councils that exist under the authority of the Minister of Indian Affairs. Under this system, departmental officials control authority. The victory in the Supreme Court enabled the Gitxsan to adopt a new mandate. This mandate focuses on the goal of enabling the Gitxsan to be Gitxsan within the Canadian framework.

The Gitxsan Mission

The sixty or more House groups that make up the Gitxsan Nation had to be organized. These House groups own one hundred and twenty distinct territories that cover 30,000 square kilometres in northwestern British Columbia.

The mission of the Gitxsan has always been to find the means by which their lands and resources could once again sustain them forever. Although provincial policies favoured the forest industry approach of depleting the resources without any regard for future generations, there was awareness that new approaches were needed if the forest industry were to continue. There was public awareness that the renewable resources had to be sustainable.

The Forest Practices Code enacted by the Government of British Columbia was unveiled as legislation that could protect the renewable forest resources. Some changes had to be made to the new code's administrative practices because the implementation showed that more efficiencies could be found so that the goals of better harvest practices and protection of the environment could be met.



The economic situation that the Gitxsan find themselves in is no different from any other First Nation in Canada. The doors to employment have been very difficult to open. The average unemployment rate in Gitxsan villages is well over 80 percent. The youth that make up the majority of the population are particularly hard hit. The forest industry, which the local economy depends upon, has no entry level jobs.

House group boundaries of traditional Gitxsan territories encompass 30,000 square kilometres in northwestern British Columbia.

Globalization and the economic consequences that this phenomenon brings further exacerbate the economic crisis in Gitxsan territory. The Gitxsan, being at the short end of the rope, are the first employees to be let go when cutbacks occur. When a region is dependent on one industry, everyone is at peril. The Gitxsan had to take action to diversify the local economy. The economic planning that is taking place at the House group level will be tied to bringing long-term benefits to all youth living in Gitxsan territory.

Identifying Traditional Land Uses

Economic planning begins with taking stock. The process of getting people on their feet will take time. The dependency cycle that faces the Gitxsan took effect over at least three generations. It may take the Gitxsan one hundred years to be free and independent again.

In order to determine the limits of the land and resource base, the Gitxsan have begun to take stock. The territorial lands were analyzed and it was found that if nine watersheds were marked out and separated into management units, the information could be more easily assembled, coordinated, and managed.

Chairpersons were then sought out from within the Gitxsan Nation to lead the process of organizing the critical work that needed to be undertaken on the land base. Once the chairpersons were found, they were then trained in the disciplines that would enable them to take stock of the abundant resources of the land.

One of the first assignments that had to be addressed was the initiation of a traditional use study. The baseline data compiled from this two-year undertaking will provide resource managers and users with maps that outline the sites on the territories that are culturally important to the Gitxsan. These maps will clearly identify the trade— and access trails, the medicine gathering areas, the berry picking sites, spiritual camps, ancient villages, and many other places that are critically important to the Gitxsan.

The new technology that is available to the Watershed Chairs has been adapted for use by the House groups. An especially important piece of software is the *Sim gi ghet Information System (SIS)* that has been designed to keep track of proposed and ongoing development activity on each House territory. The SIS can accommodate all the information that the chiefs need to monitor what needs attention on their territory. Recent negotiations with provincial government ministries have enabled most of the mapping to be done on the basis of total compatibility with provincial government information systems. Credit has to go to local Ministry of Forests staff working cooperatively with Gitxsan technicians on these important tasks.

It is the intent of the Gitxsan to create a database that the chiefs, the Crown, and any developers can rely on. At the present time, all three parties keep their own data—at great expense to the business that needs to be done. The data that each party develops on its own tends to be different from the other two parties.

The management units of the provincial government are disparate. The Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment have different administrative boundaries. The Ministry of Mines local offices are located far from other provincial government offices that they have to work with. When a development proponent tries to implement a project, he or she has to waste a lot of time trying to find who can issue development permits.

The Gitxsan, in the reconciliation process, have developed a decision matrix with the provincial authorities that focuses on who can make decisions that impact on Gitxsan territory. This exercise has enabled the provincial government to see how complicated it is to get things done in northwestern British Columbia. All too often, the decisions are made in isolation of those who are directly impacted. The goal of the Gitxsan is to bring the decision-making on resource use home to the territory. In this way the decision-makers will be truly accountable.

The end result that the Gitxsan are seeking is for the management of the resources to be as efficient and effective as that which exists for the Gitxsan Houses. The sustainable development goals that are achieved at the local level will enable people to live within their means.

Using Traditional Knowledge

1. Skeena River Project

Some specific projects have been initiated by the Gitxsan to use the knowledge that has been left in their trust to once again manage the resources on a sustainable basis.

The primary focus in the last few years is to find ways to conserve the wild salmon runs of the Skeena River. This focus is motivated by the fact that the Gitxsan have been sustained on their territories by the bounty of the river.

A Gitxsan boy assisting with the harvesting of sockeye salmon on the Skeena River. Experimental learning plays a major role in traditional Gitxsan education.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the wild salmon stocks are no longer at risk. The Gitxsan have observed phenomenon in recent decades that have alarmed them. Commercial fishing activity that has taken place along the Pacific coast had to be curtailed due to unexplained losses in salmon

returns. Governments across international borders have not been able to use their will and authority to manage the salmon resource.

The Gitxsan continue to take the lead on the rebirth of the Skeena Watershed process. The Skeena Fisheries Commission has been successful in the re-establishment of an all-sector conservation-based process to bring all interests together around the conservation and sustainability of the resource. Through a great deal of collaboration and some arm-twisting, the users and managers were brought together and focussed on what needed to be done. This initiative is undertaken with the support of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The one major issue that the Skeena Watershed Committee could not add to the agenda was the protection of the salmon habitat. The people that managed the salmon, primarily the federal government, had no means by which to protect the habitat. The land base came under provincial jurisdiction.

A new approach had to be taken to conserve the salmon resource and it had to be done on the land.

An example of the Gitxsan approach is described in the following paragraphs.

In the past ten years, one Gitxsan House group from the Lax'skiik Clan has taken on the responsibility of protecting Aboriginal rights on their territories. Consultations, required by law, have been taking place between the Lax'skiik and the local Ministry of Forests office. Many attempts have been made to execute an agreement on forest use with the Ministry of Forests at the district, regional, and provincial levels. As well, the Lax'skiik submitted a set of maps and prescriptions indicating the site that specific animal and plant habitat and Lax'skiik infrastructure required for the Clan to exercise their Aboriginal rights. More recently, they have initiated and conducted wildlife habitat use and traditional use inventories on their territories.

Sockeye salmon is harvested and prepared in smokehouses owned communally by House groups. Smoked fish is an important part of the diet and holds great economic value.

The Aboriginal title and rights that the Lax'skiik have on their territories include the rights to hunt, trap, fish and gather plants and use the territory for spiritual and social purposes. In order to exercise their Aboriginal rights in their territories the Lax'skiik require, among other things, the following:

a) conservation, over both the short and long term, of certain plants and animals as part of their Aboriginal rights and title,

b) conservation of the habitats of those plants and animals,

c) the preservation of sufficient infrastructure to enable the House members to access, harvest, process, and transport those plants and animals over the short and long term without undue hardship, and

d) the maintenance of the spiritual and ecological integrity of their territory to allow the Lax'skiik to educate their members and others, and to practice their spiritual beliefs.

Gitxsan depend on the land for their survival in many ways. Trapping fur-bearing mammals such as the marten provides economic benefits.

2. Spiritual Use of Gitxsan Territory

The Lax'skiik (as in the past) are currently taking responsibility for their territory under Gitxsan law by harvesting or maintaining, for spiritual purposes, many species of plants and animals available to them. To do this, the Lax'skiik use hunting, fishing and processing camps and trails throughout their territory. The Clan uses the territory for spiritual purposes, including sweat lodges and facilities for fasting. It invites others to share in these economic and spiritual activities, including younger Clan members and youths from Gitxsan and First Nations communities elsewhere who are experiencing difficulties with drugs and alcohol. The Lax'skiik organize some of these educational activities in conjunction with Wilp Si'Satxw, the Gitxsan House of Purification and with the Unlocking Aboriginal Justice Program. This program is an alternative justice program run under a partnership agreement with the Gitxsan Houses, British Columbia, and Canada as partners. The Lax'skiik intend to continue and expand on this range of activities by building dwelling,

Sustenance is gained from the land in many ways. Berry picking for huckleberries is a late-summer, early fall activity. While most berries are consumed locally, some Gitxsan have begun marketing a huckleberry jam product as an economic initiative.

lodging, manufacturing and processing facilities as well as social and spiritual facilities such as long houses and sweat lodges. These facilities will expand the number of Clan members and others who can use the territory as well as expand the range of activities including education of young people linked with economic ventures such as logging, tourism and inland commercial fishery.

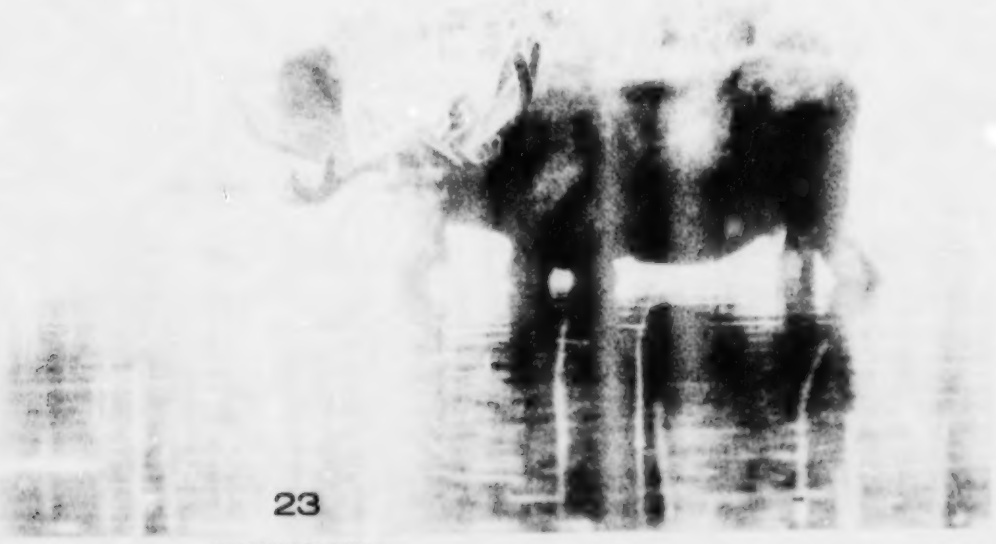
Working Together

The Lax'skiik are developing a co-management plan in the spirit of the Reconciliation Agreement that exists between the Gitxsan and the Government of British Columbia. This economic plan will include a territory-wide timber conservation and harvesting plan as well as focussing on other sustainable development and renewable resources.

In harvesting these resources, the Gitxsan will be training young people in useful technical skills and self-management. The experience to date in working with young people on the territory tells the Lax'skiik this activity would encourage the participants to break the syndrome of school dropout, family breakdown, drugs and alcohol, and crime that is a major problem in all the Gitxsan villages. The activities would be governed by Gitxsan laws and institutions, allowing the young people to learn through their culture, which means through their own language and on their own territories. The ties of language and culture were broken in residential schools through isolation from family and community. The Gitxsan feel it can only be restored on the territories through isolation from reserves and agencies that perpetuate dependency.

The **gwelx ye insxw** that has been passed down from the ancient Gitxsan truly offers the salvation that is needed by the modern Gitxsan to be free people within the Canadian political fabric. This freedom includes unhitching the ties of oppressive forces that have kept the Gitxsan beggars in their homeland.

By utilizing the treasures that have been protected by their former leaders, the Gitxsan will once again be free on their own terms to be self-sufficient and live on a territory that is governed locally under the principles of sustainable development.



Chapter Th

Partnerships in Action

In 1998-1999, 211 projects were approved under the First Nation Forestry Program by provincial and territorial management committees and the National Management Committee. Over 11,000 person weeks of employment were created by project activities.

This year, six projects from across Canada are provided as examples of what First Nations are doing in forestry and forestry related activities. There are two stories for each of Objectives 1, 2 and 4, respectively. Descriptions of projects for the Nooaitch Band, British Columbia and the Atikamekw Nation in Quebec represent projects associated with Objective 1 (business capacity enhancement). The Wildland Firefighting story from northern Alberta and that from the North Shore Tribal Council, northern Ontario, are representative of projects in Objective 2 (cooperation and partnerships). The Wahnapitae First Nation, Ontario and Gwich'in First Nation, Northwest Territories, are stories associated with Objective 4 (reserve forest management capacity).

Contacts are provided for First Nations and others who might be interested in following up on these projects with the respective project manager.

Alberta First Nations Increase Involvement in Wildland Firefighting

Aboriginal Albertans have a long history of participating in firefighting efforts in the province. With many First Nation communities located in prime forest fire zones, it has always been customary and prudent for band members to join firefighting efforts in their territory whenever the need arose.

When the Province of Alberta introduced a new hiring system a few years ago that required training and certification for Level I and II firefighters, many First Nation communities saw this as an opportunity to train band members and establish professional firefighting crews. In 1998 and 1999 the Alexander, Beaver Lake, Driftpile, McMurray, Paul and Sunchild First Nations received funding from the First Nation Forestry Program to train band members as Level II Wildland Firefighters. What was once a sporadic job choice has become a dependable summer job option for dozens of First Nation individuals, and an economic development opportunity for their bands.

In Alberta there are three levels of wildland firefighters. Level I crews are the first into a fire, and are the highest trained and experienced. Level II crews arrive next to offer support to Level I crews in many areas of fire suppression. Level III firefighters usually mop up the fire scene when the other crews are finished their work. Salaries for firefighters are based on training and certification levels, with Level I's at the highest pay range.

Morning drop off of participants of the Driftpile First Nation Wildland Firefighting Type II training project.

"The support from the First Nation Forestry Program helped open the door for our community to a new employment opportunity. There continues to be a very high interest among community members in firefighting training and jobs."
John Giroux

In the past, firefighters waited to be called out by the Alberta Forest Service to fight fires on an as-needed basis. During the past few years, many First Nation bands have been establishing their own Level II crews and contracting them to the Province for the full fire season.

Fire season runs from April to October in Alberta, and most Level II contracts are for 60-120 days and run from May through August. Each First Nation band that has crews available negotiates a contract with the Province to provide firefighting services for the season. Crews can be called to fires anywhere in the province, and on occasion, be sent to other provinces to fight fires.

In 1998 and 1999, six First Nation communities in Alberta offered Level II Wildfire Firefighting training to band members with the support of the First Nation Forestry Program. The training took approximately three weeks and included basic firefighting, industrial, and safety training. Graduates are required to pass a written and physical test before receiving their Level II Wildland Firefighter certificate, which enables them to work on a band-operated crew.

Russell Whitford, Economic Development and Human Resource Manager for the Beaver Lake First Nation in Northeastern Alberta, coordinated the training for his band. "The training program was a success for our band. It's the first time that we've put together professional crews with training and certification."

"The support from the First Nation Forestry Program for the Level II training was important to making this program the success that it has been over the past two years. We trained 19 community members with the FNFP funding and as a result, we were able to create several good paying jobs."

Whitford said that the training and employment opportunities that were created have had a significant impact on the community. Eighty percent of the trainees were youth, and two were women. Two crew members have decided to pursue Level I Wildland Firefighting training and others have used their training to enter related forestry and resource-based industries.

"The project has met our expectations from both an employment and practical business experience perspective. We're confident that the program will continue to grow in the future," Whitford said.

The Driftpile First Nation was another one of the six communities to receive FNFP support in 1998 - 1999. The training program was launched in January 1998 and resulted in the establishment of one 8-person Level II crew.

According to John Giroux, Driftpile's Band Administrator, the training program has had a positive impact on employment in the community as well as on the motivation level among crew members. At least one crew member is pursuing Level I firefighter training, and others have moved into arborist and forest technician programs as a result of their experience on the Level II firefighting crew.

"The support from the First Nation Forestry Program helped open the door for our community to a new employment opportunity. There continues to be a very high interest among community members in firefighting training and jobs."

The Driftpile Level II crew completed a 90 day contract in 1999, and hopes to secure contracts from the Province for many years to come. To ensure that First Nations continue to have a stake in firefighting contracts in the future, and to help develop positive relations between First Nations and the Province, Giroux organized a workshop in Edmonton in March, 1999. The goal of the workshop, which was funded by the First Nation Forestry Program, was to initiate communications between First Nations and the Alberta government in the area of certification, contracts and training requirements.

"It's important that the Province hears the concerns of First Nations relating to their firefighting policy and certification in the province," Giroux said. "We need to have a voice in future changes and the criteria of the program. First Nations have well-trained individuals and a knowledge base that comes from generations of living and working in the forests."

Giroux said that the goal of the Driftpile First Nation is to create year-round employment for the firefighting crews. "There is every opportunity to make a profit in this field. Our vision is to become more involved in the forestry sector, in areas like regeneration and silviculture, which will extend the employment season for band members."

Judging by the growing number of First Nation individuals who hold Wildland Firefighting Level II certificates, and the strong interest among bands to enter the contracting business, the future for firefighting careers seems to be heating up in Alberta.

Contact:
Herb Arcand, Councillor
Alexander First Nation
(780) 939-5887

Gwich'in First Nation Plays Leadership Role in Forest Management

The traditional territory of the Gwich'in First Nation embraces two mountain ranges, three major rivers and 57,000 square kilometers of alpine tundra and black spruce forest in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. This vast ecosystem includes Canada's largest delta, the Mackenzie River delta. The area is home for the Porcupine and Bluenose Caribou herds, moose, grizzly bears, and numerous small furbearers. Broad whitefish, Dolly Varden char, inconnu, burbot and northern pike populate the rivers and lakes in the region.

For the past several decades, Gwich'in Elders have observed changes in the natural environment of the Gwich'in Settlement Area. They've seen changes in the climate and migration habits of the caribou herds. They've seen the excessive harvesting of trees near villages for fuel and building material, and a general decline in the health of the forests. They've noticed that few people today practice the traditional Dene ways of harvesting trees.

Jennifer Walker-Larson, the Fisheries and Forestry Biologist for the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board (GRRB), said that the Elders had a great deal of influence on the Tribal Council's and the Board's decision to develop a comprehensive forestry management plan. The Council and Board relied heavily on advice from Elders to develop a stewardship plan for the natural resources in the region, and for information on traditional forestry practices.

Walker-Larson said that the GRRB's mission is to consult and include community members in the

management of the natural resources in their territory. This is the foundation for all initiatives, programs and studies undertaken by the Board. One of its primary mandates is to ensure that any wood harvesting activity on the land does not conflict with Gwich'in traditional lifestyle.

"Traditionally, the Gwich'in used the entire tree," Walker-Larson pointed out. "The branches and tops of trees were used for flooring, tree gum was used for medicinal purposes, and the trunks used for housing and fuel."

The Elders' concerns led to the development of permanent forest plots to monitor forest health in the settlement area. This project received funding support from the FNFP and the GRRB as well as contributions from the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development and Aurora College in Inuvik.

"We approached the First Nation Forestry Program with a proposal to carry out the forest monitoring project, and the response was very positive. The project falls within it's mandate to assist First Nations in having a more significant role in the sustainable management of the forests in their territory," Walker-Larson said. The FNFP contributed to an Elder's workshop, the forest use survey and the forest monitoring project.

Launched in the summer of 1998, the forest monitoring project is one element of a forestry management plan being developed for the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The project involves monitoring two plots of forest land, located 15 kilometers south of Inuvik and a few kilometers west of Campbell Lake. The first plot uses the monitoring protocol designed by the Smithsonian Institute-Man and the Biosphere Program that studies changes in forest health and biodiversity. The second plot uses the Acid Rain National Early Warning System (ARNEWS) methodology to measure changes in forest health that results from pollution.

"Traditionally, the Gwich'in used the entire tree," Walker-Larson pointed out. "The branches and tops of trees were used for flooring, tree gum was used for medicinal purposes, and the trunks used for housing and fuel." Jennifer Walker-Larson

(left to right) Doug Villeneuve, Alfred Moses, and Allen Firth creating an inventory of trees in the ARNEWS permanent forest plot. Near Campbell Creek, Gwich'in Territorial Park.

Initial work on the side-by-side plots took place in July 1998 and included training for approximately ten Gwich'in community members. Part of the early fieldwork involved establishing the parameters of the plots to be monitored, conducting an inventory of trees and other vegetation, assessing the health of the trees, and creating a map of the study area. Training for plot one, a 100 square metre area, was provided by Marshall Buchanan, an Inuvik-based forestry consultant. Training and fieldwork for plot two was delivered by James Brandt and Jim Weber, both Forest Health Technicians with the Canadian Forest Service in Edmonton.

The study is expected to provide the GRRB with insights into incremental environmental changes in the region. The baseline information collected in 1998 will provide a means to compare and contrast changes that take place in the settlement area well into the 21st century. During the planned 10-15 years of the study, Gwich'in community members and forest technicians from the Canadian Forest Service will conduct annual monitoring surveys twice a year, in the early and late summer.

The forest monitoring project is one important element in the GRRB's forest management plan, which also includes surveys of traditional and contemporary forest uses, vegetation mapping, timber cruising, and collecting traditional knowledge about the forest and forest use.

While scientific monitoring of the forests in the Gwich'in Settlement Area is relatively new, it is an important step in continuing the Gwich'in's role in the protection and management of their traditional territory. With an ecosystem that includes trees of up to 700 years old in some sections of the Arctic Red River watershed, an extraordinary range of fish, bird and wildlife species, and evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the land for more than 10,000 years, there is a compelling urgency to ensure that the natural resources of the region are carefully managed. The forest monitoring project is one way that the Gwich'in will continue to play an active role in maintaining a healthy environmental balance in their ancestral territory.

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Nooaitch Indian Band Launches Log-Home Building Business

Entrepreneurial ventures are nothing new for the Nooaitch Indian Band of Merritt, British Columbia. The 120-member band is a shareholder in a successful Day's Inn Hotel as well as an accounting and computer service company. The creation of Eagle's Nest Log Industries, Inc. in 1998 was a natural business development strategy for a band that holds a woodlot license, has a waiting list of band members needing housing, and is preparing to develop a 23-lot subdivision.

The decision by the Nooaitch Indian Band to launch a log home building business fulfilled many of its long-range goals, according to James Fountain, the Band Administrator. **"Our goal is to increase job opportunities in the forest industry in the Nicola Valley, not only for the Nooaitch but for other bands as well," Fountain stated. "We're also committed to improving housing conditions for our community members."**

In 1998 the band conducted a feasibility study into a log home building venture. The purpose of the study was to determine whether the company could be financially viable and if there was potential to attract a joint venture partner.

An important element in expanding its involvement the forest industry is the band's recent award of a 15-year non-renewable small wood timber sale license, to add to their existing 400 hectare woodlot license. In 1998, then-Chief Linda Shackelley and Councilors Lana Clydesdale and Clifford Shackelley recognized the need to develop a venture that would provide added value to the wood harvested from their territory.

"Some of the trees we harvest will be used in the log home building business instead of being sold as raw logs," added Fountain.

The idea for the business was influenced by the fact that there are 40 Nooaitch families on the waiting list for housing. The company hopes that many of the houses built on their new 23-lot subdivision will be log homes constructed by Eagle's Nest Log Industries. "The first log houses we build will be for band members who qualify for traditional mortgages," Fountain said. One local bank has already started accepting applications for construction loans from individual band members.

Securing a small wood timber sale license and launching a log home building venture are significant steps for a band with only minimal experience in the forest industry. While a few band members have worked in harvesting and silviculture jobs for non-Aboriginal companies, Eagle's Nest represents a major step towards band involvement in the industry.

Even before conducting the feasibility study, the Nooaitch First Nation was anticipating entering the forest sector. In 1998, the band coordinated a log home construction training program with the support of the First Nation Forestry Program, a CMHC youth initiative, the Interior Salish Employment and Training Society, and a Department of Indian Affairs training program. Among those trained to build log homes were three Aboriginal youth and four displaced forestry workers. Trainees came from as far away as Prince George to learn chainsaw use, falling and bucking, first aid and log home construction.

In 1999, Eagles' Nest Log Industries received support from the FNFP to assist in business start-up costs and marketing the company. "The support from the FNFP for the log home building training and launching the business was essential to the development of the company," Fountain said.

So far, the company has built a 750 square foot cabin, a 1500 square foot house, sheds and picnic tables made out of lodgepole pine and fir. When the company is fully operational, it will employ a staff of eight, including a seven-person crew and a business manager. The band expects some local business and employment spin-offs such as construction, logging and trucking subcontracting. In 1999, Eagles' Nest Log Industries entered into a

joint venture with Esh-kn-am Investments, an economic development company owned by four Thompson bands, including Nooaitch.

David Walkem, chief of the Cook's Ferry Band and one of the principles of Esh-kn-am Investments said, "We see Eagle's Nest Log Industries as a good long-term investment for Esh-kn-am. The company will create jobs and build houses for people in our community. There's also the potential for the company to sell its products on a national and international level."

The Nooaitch Indian Band sees a bright future in the forest industry. "We'll continue with the log home business, and we're looking at the idea of starting up a sawmill at some point," Fountain commented. The company has developed a marketing brochure, and had a booth at Nexus '99, a national Aboriginal business trade show held in Vancouver in July.

Meanwhile, Eagle's Nest Log Industries is starting to get a name for itself in the Nicola Valley. "We've had some people come out from Merritt to look at the house that we're building and inquire about our services," Fountain said. Despite the potential for outside growth, the company intends to address the needs of its own community members first. Eagle's Nest has established its priorities, at least for the present, according to Fountain. "For now, we're going to focus on building log homes for band members, before we start exporting off reserve."

One thing is clear, the Nooaitch Indian Band's decision to launch a log home building venture could not have come at a better time for the 120 members of that community.

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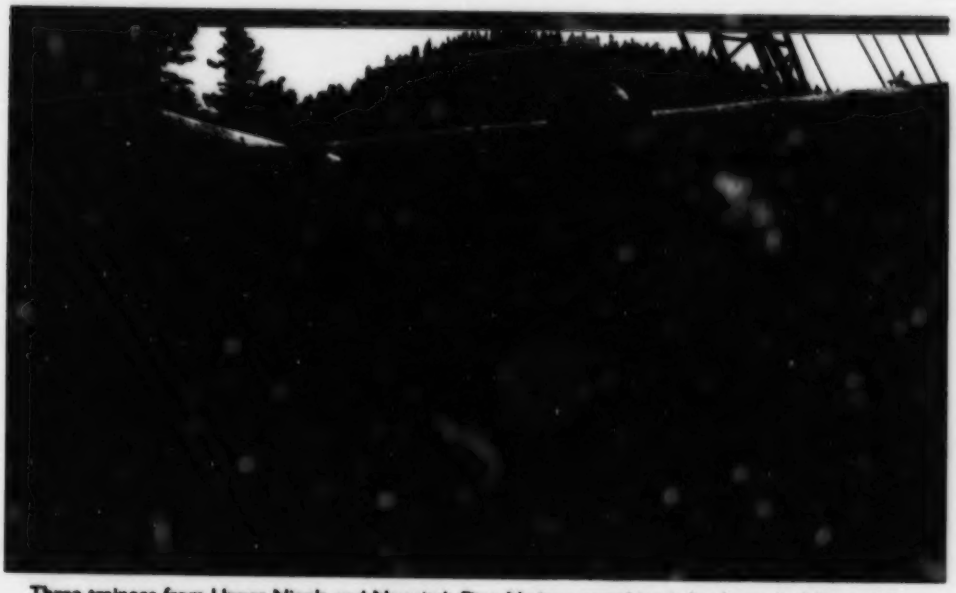
"We see Eagle's Nest Log Industries as a good long-term investment for Esh-kn-am. The company will create jobs and build houses for people in our community. There's also the potential for the company to sell its products on a national and international level."
Chief David Walkem



Three trainees from Upper Nicola and Nooaitch First Nations partaking in log home building training. Here, trainees are working on the construction of a 780 ft² cabin.

Meeting the Challenge, The Forestry Unit of the North Shore Tribal Council

The past few years have been challenging ones for the Forestry Unit of the North Shore Tribal Council (NSTC). Established in the early 1990's, the Unit was created to respond to the concern that there was little being done in terms of managing the forests, including little in the way of harvest planning and regulation of operations. The Canadian Forest Service, through the Federal-Provincial Forest Resource Development Agreements, the precursors to the FNFP, provided the initial funding for establishing the Unit. While the Forestry Unit has gone through a few changes over the past 10 years, they have continued to build capacity and enhance their operation with respect to helping seven member First Nations manage their on-reserve forest land and develop viable economic and employment development initiatives. The seven First Nations are located between Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, Ontario, along the northern shore of Lake Huron.

(left to right) Russell Abitiitong and Oswald Southwind, members of the cutting crew from Sagamok Anishinabek First Nation, in front of a skidder.

Currently the Forestry Unit is in a transitional phase in terms of the delivery of their forestry program. Their primary function is to provide advice and technical assistance in all aspects of forestry operations, including management and planning, harvesting, silvicultural work and road building. The Canadian Forest Service programs contributed financial support for these activities for the ten-year period up to 1995, and the FNFP has continued this support since 1996. In addition, in line with the FNFP objective of increasing First Nation's co-operation and partnerships in an effort to stimulate self-reliance in forestry, the Forestry Unit has been working to stimulate revenue-generating opportunities. "We encourage First Nation enterprises to become self-sufficient," says Jukka Heikurinen, a professional forester and the Forestry Unit Director. "We are trying to concentrate more on providing forestry services on a fee-for-service basis to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients. We need to spend more time on external contracts, such as planning, forest operation assistance, timber regulation and environmental control, however, we recognize that we need to maintain our focus on helping with on-reserve operations." Jukka feels that this sometimes creates a dilemma, as they need to plan their time carefully in order to maintain a balance of generating revenue from external contracts and providing services to First Nations. The Ontario Management Committee (OMC) fully supports the operations of the Forestry Unit in their efforts to balance the need to provide forestry service to their NSTC member First Nations and create revenue-generating opportunities. They recognize that becoming fully financially self-reliant is a process that may take a number of years and are pleased that the Forestry Unit has worked hard to develop their capacity and that of their member First Nations in terms of developing and enhancing forestry sector businesses.

The operation of a Geographical Information System (GIS) is another service that the Forestry Unit provides. It is used for resource management projects across the Tribal Council area. Much of the initial funding for the purchase and installation of the GIS and training of staff at each of the NSTC First Nation offices was provided through the CFS programs. "The GIS is an important planning tool to protect the integrity of the forest," says Jukka. This digitized mapping system is also used for fee-for-service projects contracted to external clients.

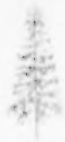
In 1998, the Forestry Unit facilitated the purchase of Robinson-Huron Forestry Company by area First Nations. Robinson-Huron Forestry Company Inc. (RHFCI) holds a Crown Timber Licence in the Northshore Forest. This holding provides First Nations an opportunity to participate in a meaningful way in the forest sector. The financial support to prepare the initial business plan and to examine the due diligence aspects of the purchase was provided by the FNFP, as the OMC members recognized this as a significant opportunity for the area First Nations. "It has been a crucial time in the history of Crown land management and we managed to get in before the door closed," says Jukka. "It is an exciting time for First Nations because they own the company and by employing First Nation contractors for timber harvesting and road building they can help community members build marketable job skills." The Forestry Unit has been contracted to provide forest management and technical support to RHFCI. They have also secured contracts for silvicultural work with the SFL company, Northshore Forest Inc.

DIAND has just now indicated an interest in contracting the Forestry Unit's services to provide timber permitting and harvest regulation services to North Shore area First Nations on their behalf. "This is the first time that DIAND has provided funding of this nature," says Jukka, "but in some cases we need to update the 20-year resource management plans before we can issue any timber cutting permits. Securing the funding to do this can often be a challenge."

The establishment of Mitigaawaaki Marketing Co-operative Inc. was also a project that the Forestry Unit facilitated. On behalf of First Nations in the local area, including the First Nations in the NSTC and several First Nations on Manitoulin Island, Mitigaawaaki provides marketing assistance for commercial sales of timber and enhancement of markets for non-timber forest products. In 1996, the FNFP provided funding to establish the operating parameters and business strategy of the Co-operative and continued to support Mitigaawaaki in 1997 and 1998, as they explored forestry market opportunities.

While Mitigaawaaki is not a business operation of the NSTC, the Forestry Unit does provide administrative and management services to the Co-operative. Lorraine Rekmans is the Negotiation and Communication Coordinator for Mitigaawaaki and the Forestry Unit. "There is a real need to market good quality forest products. We are approaching a new era in sustainable forest management where you need to get the best value per hectare for your product." Lorraine says there are few marketing difficulties with high-grade timber, whereas the low-grade timber is difficult to sell, especially as it deteriorates in value and quality over time while overhead costs remain fixed. To sell the less desirable, low-grade hardwood,

"It is an exciting time for First Nations because they own the company and by employing First Nation contractors for timber harvesting and road building they can help community members build marketable job skills."
Juuka Heikurinen



Mitigaawaaki works on behalf of First Nation Co-operative members to secure larger contracts for a better market price, based upon timber being supplied from a variety of First Nation sources. A collective marketing approach is needed to secure larger sales agreements.

FNFP funding has allowed Mitigaawaaki to help members explore opportunities for non-timber forest product sales. "There are large and lucrative untapped markets for a variety of non-timber forest products," says Lorraine, "and we are trying to help our cooperators operate on a competitive basis." A feasibility study recently completed with funding from FNFP and Aboriginal Business Canada (ABC), shows that there are viable business opportunities with respect to marketing of products such as berries, herbs, greenery products, decorative twigs to be used in floral arrangements, and maple syrup. A business-planning model was developed in 1998, which could be used to help write business plans for individual entrepreneurs across the NSTC area and help them establish non-timber forest products businesses or enhance their operations. "Often small suppliers can't provide enough of a product to meet the market demand," says Lorraine, "and Mitigaawaaki Marketing Co-operative provides an essential service in terms of coordinating suppliers to meet contract demands.

In addition to Lorraine and Jukka and an administrative clerk, the NSTC Forestry Unit also has three Forest Technicians on staff. A network of First Nation Resource Officers from across the Tribal Council area is also in place to coordinate or assist with forestry initiatives in their local area.

Funding from the FNFP has been key to the success of the Forestry Unit, according to both Lorraine and Jukka. "The FNFP plays a crucial role in the development of First Nation enterprises," says Lorraine. "Funding has been provided to us that has allowed us to develop business enterprises employing in excess of 50 people. It has also allowed us to facilitate the involvement of other federal and provincial funding agencies in the development of business ideas." DIAND, FedNor, Human Resources Development Canada, ABC and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources are some of the main partners.

"FNFP funding to allow us to complete specific projects is very important to us," says Jukka. "When project money ends we lose people, which slows down our ability to become self-sufficient." Jukka hopes "the FNFP continues until we become self-sufficient and that our operation continues to fit within the FNFP objectives."

"We are trying to maintain a good business," says Jukka. "We are all willing to meet the challenges for the future of on-reserve management. In order to manage the forest, we need to have a larger land-base and we need to expand. We want to be a larger shareholder in the forest sector. The Forestry Unit is committed to providing opportunities to First Nation communities to create work on an on-going basis."

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Forest Operations for Wahnapitae First Nation, A Major Leap Forward

Over the past two years the residents of Wahnapitae First Nation (WFN), an Ojibway community of 300 members (50 on-reserve residents) 60 km north of Sudbury, Ontario, have been working hard to establish themselves with respect to forestry-sector activities. "We didn't have any expertise in the forest industry at all," says Peter Recollet, Lands and Resource Technician.

"The FNFP funding was what we needed to help us start understanding what our forest resources are. We have begun to develop some options with respect to the best way to manage our resources and the type of assistance we need."

In 1997, WFN submitted a proposal to the FNFP to prepare a 20-year management plan and corresponding business plan for the reserve and community. The members of the Ontario Management Committee (OMC) were pleased to support the initiative, on the basis that they have promoted the FNFP as a program that recognises First Nations are often at different levels with

Peter Recollet, Lands and Resource Technician, in front of Wahnapitae First Nation band office.

respect to the development of forestry capacity. The OMC also realised that there were some potentially lucrative business and partnership opportunities for WFN in the future. In 1998, the FNFP contributed funding to support WFN in their efforts with respect to establishing partnerships with local forest industry and exploring forestry business ventures.

WFN is one of five First Nations that have signed partnership agreements with Vermillion Forest Management Inc. (VFMI is the licence holder for the Sudbury Crown Management Unit), Tembec Industries, and the Municipality of French River. The Agreement of Understanding was signed in September, 1997. "It was on a small scale, involving tree planting, stand tending, tree marking and other types of silviculture, but we knew these activities would not sustain all five First Nations," says Peter. It was at this point that WFN looked at co-ordinating the forestry activities.

In 1998, Tembec's mill in Alban, Ontario burnt down and the company decided not to rebuild it. The five First Nations approached the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) to grant access for them to harvest the wood allocated to this mill. OMNR requested that the five First Nations work with VFMI to come up with a joint proposal on how the wood should be allocated. Another stakeholder also emerged representing the laid-off workers from the former Alban mill. "We started negotiations with the three parties and, through funding provided by the OMNR, brought in an independent facilitator (Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association) to help reach an agreement" says Peter. The first order of business was to identify the needs of each of the parties.

"I saw an opportunity to work with Tembec on their overlapping licence with VFMI" says Peter. Within an eight-month period, an agreement was reached and signed by the First Nations and Tembec in August 1999. "We never lost sight of our main objective to become a shareholder of VFMI and to secure access to Crown timber." The partnership agreement provides the five First Nations with an opportunity to harvest 19.8% of the Sudbury Crown Management Unit. "It has been a major leap forward in Ontario, " says Peter, one of the principal negotiators of the agreement. "I am proud that we were able to negotiate a deal that would benefit everyone involved." Peter acknowledges, with thanks, the other members of the negotiating team: Michael Eshkawkogan - Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, Cory Restoule - Dokis First Nation, Ralph Young - Whitefish Lake First Nation, and Ray Kakagens - Henvey Inlet First Nation.

The first step will be to set up a forestry corporation to administer the forestry contract and hold a workshop for harvesters, road builders, transportation and other community personnel from all five First Nations. The workshop will be to share information and help each other understand where each community is in terms of experience and what types of training and certification are needed. "There is a difference between the methods used by harvesters on Crown land and those used on First Nations land. "We want to clearly identify the harvesting methods that would be applied to specific areas," says Peter, "because in order to be a truly sustainable forestry operation, the harvesters need to understand all phases of forestry."

"We want to clearly identify the harvesting methods that would be applied to specific areas," says Peter, "because in order to be a truly sustainable forestry operation, the harvesters need to understand all phases of forestry." Peter Recollet

The second phase will consist of establishing a work plan for the winter cut and road construction and training of First Nation harvesters under Crown land harvesting guidelines. "We have selected a training area on Crown land," says Peter, "now we need an inventory of human resources and equipment." Tembec has also allocated one of their foresters to work with the First Nations on implementing and managing the operations.

On April 1, 2000 the five First Nations will enter into preliminary negotiations with respect to the process to be followed for the First Nations to become shareholders of VFMI.

Peter and others at the WFN office are also busy planning initiatives for their on-reserve forestry program. One idea is to establish a birch bark supply business to other First Nations, as there is an abundance of white-birch trees on the WFN reserve. "We have been approached by the Ojibway Cultural Foundation to supply birch bark for the production of arts and crafts, but in order to practice sustainable management we need to look at ways to properly harvest birch bark without killing the trees." WFN is also examining the feasibility of establishing a commercial operation for the production of white-birch syrup and sugar. "Another objective we have is to upgrade the forestry education and training of our people," says Peter. "We have people enrolled in the Forestry Program at Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario."

The forestry activities of Wahnapitae First Nation are just now being developed. "There is so much more to doing business in the forestry sector, such as assessments, surveying, and road building and we have many plans for the future," says Peter. "What we have done so far is just the beginning."

Peter feels that the support of the FNFP has been extremely beneficial. "A good relationship is now emerging and it is a win-win situation for all parties," says Peter. "In this business, we all have to work together."

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Wemotaci on The Road to Environmental Certification

At Wemotaci, Services Forestiers Atikamekw Aski Inc. (SFAA) has been working towards environmental certification since June 1998. With the help of a guide, it has been moving forward in this direction as part of a broader process of ongoing improvement.

SFAA, which works exclusively in the areas of forestry and silviculture, felt a need to obtain environmental certification in order to meet its clients' needs and to ensure better control of its activities.

The project had its genesis at a time when the company was experiencing difficulties and was forced to review all aspects of its operations in order to ensure its operational and financial stability. "If SFAA is to reestablish a sound footing, it has to implement recovery measures," says Réjean Godin, the company's forest manager. "We have introduced control methods and have even made organizational changes in order to ensure we succeed in our recovery efforts." Recovery is one thing, but it is important not to forget about the

environment. "The introduction of control processes is inevitable," says Jacquot Petiquay, forest technician, "but in doing so, we have to be sure to take the environment into account." That is why the environmental certification process is being rolled out at the same time as the recovery process.

SFAA has been in operation since 1986. When it was created, its mandate was to carry out operations in power transmission corridors. It now specializes in silvicultural activities and forestry operations and harvests 175,000 m³ annually. The company has created 60 to 70 jobs, more than half of which are filled by members of Aboriginal communities.

Wemotaci is a village of the Atikamekw Nation. It is located on the shores of the St. Maurice River, between La Tuque and the Gouin reservoir and has a population of 1,200.

SFAA works for forest industries in the St. Maurice Valley. By next year, apart from its regular contracts with regional industries, its primary activity will consist in supplying the proposed sawmill at Wemotaci. Forest industrialists are constantly raising their standards in order to maintain their competitive edge in markets and to meet public expectations with respect to the environment. "It is precisely in order to meet these expectations and to maintain extremely high level of quality that SFAA became involved in a process of ongoing improvement," adds Mr. Godin.

Patrick Ambroise from Wemotaci First Nation. Pre-commercial thinning by Services Forestier Atikamekw Aski Inc. (SFAA).

For close to 10 years, SFAA has carried out many projects under the federal government's forestry program on the territory of Wemotaci, which consists of about 4,000 hectares. Today, with the support it receives under the FNFP, SFAA is able to maintain jobs for 10 forest workers for two months, one forestry technician for six months and the owner of a skidder. Under the program, SFAA carries out reforestation, commercial and precommercial thinning and a variety of silvicultural operations. "The FNFP enabled us to provide a six-week training course on precommercial thinning to 25 participants. Every year, SFAA holds a "career and profession" seminar with the help of FNFP funding. The seminar provides primary and secondary school students with an opportunity to explore the various aspects of forest sector jobs. FNFP also contributes to the implementation of SFAA's new control processes," says Mr. Godin.

Concurrently with these initiatives, SFAA implements a sustainable forest management system on the territories it manages. "Forest activities must be harmonized with our uses of the territory, while ensuring long-term availability of the resource," states Mr. Petiquay. The sustainable management approach is a way of managing the Atikamekw's ancestral territories that takes traditional activities and wildlife habitats into consideration. Even when carrying out timber harvesting activities, SFAA claims that it effectively meets the expectations of the local population, which has supported its activities to date.

SFAA plans to pursue its environmental certification efforts and forestry activities while maintaining a high level of employment for local workers and a high level of public satisfaction in respect of timber harvesting activities, which are often controversial.

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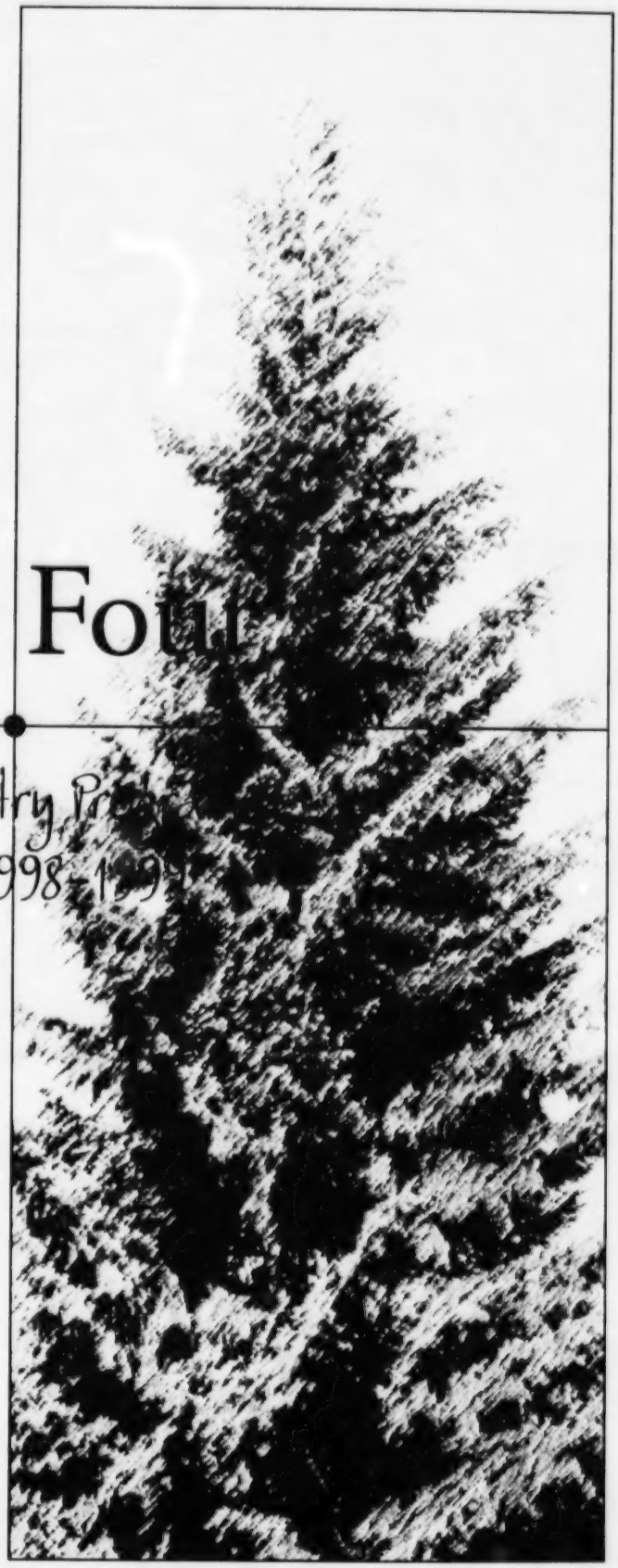
"Forest activities must be harmonized with our uses of the territory, while ensuring long-term availability of the resource."
Jacquot Petiquay

Chapter Four

First Nation Forestry Pr
Project Listing 1998-1



Prepared by: Science Programs Division, Science Branch, Canadian Forest Service

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
British Columbia				
Adams Lake Indian Band	Chase	Forestry Technician Training Program	15.0	16.7
Ahousaht First Nation	Ahousaht	Woodlot 0019 Management and Silviculture Contracting Business Development	15.0	16.7
The Alliance Tribal Council	Delta	Implementation of Business Development Strategies	15.0	32.5
Anspayaxw Development Corporation	Hazelton	Expansion of Silviculture Contracting Company	10.0	27.9
Buckley House Contracting	Prince George	Buckley House Contracting	7.0	9.1
Burns Lake Native Logging Ltd.	Burns Lake	Blow Down Salvage Training	10.0	10.8
Chawathil First Nation	Hope	Business Development Opportunities, Training and Feasibility Study	6.0	8.8
Chemainus Band	Ladysmith	Log Home Business Development and Management Plan	20.0	22.3
Cook's Ferry	Spences Bridge	Qwa-eet Forest Products Ltd. Joint Venture	3.4	3.4
Ditidaht First Nation	Port Alberni	Establishment of a Wood Manufacturing Venture	10.0	10.0
Ehattesaht First Nation	Campbell River	Feasibility Study & Business Plan	8.0	10.5
FN Tech Support	Kamloops	FN Technical Support Association	14.1	14.0
FN Tech Support	Kamloops	Aboriginal Businesses -Your Future in Forestry	12.8	15.0
Jim Fountain	Merritt	Equipment Purchase - Business Enhancement	10.0	11.8

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Fraser Canyon Tribal Administration	Lytton	Kanaka Bar Indian Band Technical Training and Forest Management Plan	25.0	76.7
Gitsegukla Band	South Hazelton	Silviculture Training Program	12.0	16.2
Halalt Band	Chemainus	Forest Business Development and Resource Inventories	6.0	6.6
Homalco First Nation	Campbell River	GIS Business Skill Training	18.0	25.0
Hupacasath First Nation	Port Alberni	Hupacasath Forestry Project	20.0	23.8
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/ Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nation	Kyuquot	Kyuquot Shake Block Business Development	12.0	19.2
Kitasoo Band Council	Klemtu	Kitasoo Forestry Project	25.0	82.7
Klahoose First Nation	Squirrel Cove	Forest Development Plan for Wood Lot W0090	20.0	27.8
Ktunaxa Independent School Society	Cranbrook	Ethnobotany Project	15.0	18.1
Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council	Cranbrook	Aklicla'in Business Development Project	10.0	10.0
Kwakiutl Band Council	Port Hardy	Silviculture Crew Enhancement Project	10.0	123.2
Kwakiutl District Council/ Musgamagw Tsawataineuk Tribal Council	Port Hardy	Forestry Entrepeneurship Enhancement Initiative	41.0	102.9
Lake Babine Nation	Burns Lake	Lake Babine Forest Management Model	20.0	31.7
Laxgalts'ap Village Government	Greenville	Aboriginal Businesses -Your Future in Forestry	16.9	16.9

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Lower Nicola Indian Band	Merritt	Forest Management Plan Development	19.7	43.3
Ma-mook Development Corporation	Port Alberni	Community Development and Forest Sector Training Program	30.0	414.1
Maquinna Development Corporation	Black Creek	Back to Basics Workshop	8.1	8.1
Matsqui First Nation	Matsqui	Matsqui First Nation Forest Inventory and Business Development Plan	8.3	15.8
Mount Currie Indian Band	Mount Currie	Strategic Plan for a Value-Added Co-Operative Business Centre	27.0	36.8
Nak'al Koh Logging Ltd.	Fort St. James	Forest Planning and Management	15.0	24.2
Snuneymuxw First Nation	Nanaimo	Implementation of Forest Strategies	10.0	20.0
Nicola Tribal Association	Merritt	Joint Venture Development	20.0	210.0
Nicola Tribal Association	Merritt	Innovative Forest Practices	12.3	12.3
Nooaitch Indian Band	Merritt	Log Home Building Business Development & Feasibility Study	6.0	10.9
N'quatqua Band (Anderson Lake Band)	D'arcy	Woodlot Resource Inventory & Skill Development Project	2.0	45.2
Nuxalk Nation	Bella Coola	Nuxalk Nation Forestry Program	20.0	66.2
Broman Lake Band	Burns Lake	Aboriginal Businesses - Your Future in Forestry Workshop	15.0	17.9
Sto:lo Nation	Chilliwack	Aboriginal Businesses...Your Future in Forestry Workshop	15.0	16.1
Pacheenaht Development Corporation	Port Renfrew	PDC Forest Opportunity Development '98	27.0	34.5

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Prince, Lauretta	Fort St. James	Chunih Business Services	1.1	1.1
Seabird Island First Nation	Agassiz	Forest Resource Management and Business Plan	17.0	24.8
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council	Kamloops	Area Technical Assistance Program Development	20.0	31.8
Simpcw Development Co. Ltd.	Barriere	Value Added Centre	25.0	89.9
Skeetchestn Indian Band	Savona	Management and Working Plan Development	20.0	25.5
Sliammon Development Corporation	Powell River	Forest Resource Management: Tenure and Joint Venture Development	20.0	34.0
Saik'uz First Nation	Vanderhoof	Log Home Building Company Business Plan	6.0	8.0
Stoney Creek Indian Band	Vanderhoof	Business Plan Development	20.0	20.0
Strategic Watershed Analysis Team	Hazelton	Taking Stock IV - Business Enhancement	25.0	143.0
Thundak Silviculture	Chase	Business Expansion	10.0	49.0
Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations	Tofino	Natural Resources Inventory	10.0	16.3
Tl'azt'en Nation	Fort St. James	Natural Resource Training Centre Feasibility Study	20.0	25.2
Tom Ignace Contracting	Chase	Juvenile Spacing Capacity Building	15.0	41.2
Tsartlip Band	Brentwood Bay	Forest Business Development and Resource Inventories	6.0	6.7
Tsleil-waututh First Nation	North Vancouver	Ecotourism Feasibility Study	6.0	7.5
Uchucklesaht Band Council	Port Alberni	Uchucklesaht Forestry Crew	5.9	5.9

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
West Moberly First Nation	Moberly Lake	Joint Venture Partnership	20.0	242.5
Xaxli'p First Nation	Lillooet	Management Plan Development	30.0	35.9
Alberta				
Fort McMurray	Fort McMurray	Wildland Firefighter Training	20.0	38.4
Beaver Lake	Lac La Biche	Wildland Firefigher Training	20.0	37.2
Woodland Cree	Cadotte Lake	Forest Management Planning and Training	13.0	34.0
Peigan	Brocket	Reserve Management Planning and Training	33.2	77.4
Paul Band	Duffield	Wildland Firefighter Training Support	12.0	68.9
Swan River	Lesser Slave Lake Area	Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Study	24.0	35.7
Tsuu T'ina	Tsuu T'ina	On-Reserve Tree Planting Training	13.5	92.3
Athabasca Chipewyan	Northeastern Alberta	Non-Timber Forest Resource Inventory	10.0	21.0
Horse Lake	Hythe	Traditional Land Use Inventory	24.0	127.1
Kehewin Cree	Bonnyville	Forest Nursery Operation/Training	10.0	71.0
Alexander	Morinville	Wildland Firefighter Training and Reserve Forest Rehabilitation	34.4	65.0
Driftpile	Driftpile	Wildland Firefighter Training	20.0	27.8
Sucker Creek	Enilda	On-Reserve Reforestation Program	7.5	11.3
Kiska Waptan Ta-otha	Nordegg	Master Log Builder Training	30.0	62.4
Chipewyan Prairie	Chard Area	Wildland Firefigher Training	20.0	54.6
Bigstone Cree	Desmarais	Log Building Training	25.0	56.0

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
O'Chiese	Rocky Mountain House Area	Forest Worker Training	10.0	94.9
Blood Tribe	Standoff	Forest Management Pilot Project	25.0	211.5
Sunchild	Rocky Mountain House Area	Wildland Firefighter Training Support	5.0	25.6
Alexander	Morinville	Coordination of Conference Attendance, Treaty 6, 8	13.0	13.0
Peigan	Brocket	Coordination of Conference Attendance, Treaty 7	6.5	6.5
Driftpile	Edmonton	Wildland Firefighter (Type II) Contractors Workshop	15.0	15.0
Saskatchewan				
Makwa Sahgnichican First Nation	Loon Lake	Capacity Building for Makawa Sahgnichican First Nation Forestry	19.2	114.7
Island Lake First Nation	Loon Lake	Capacity Building for Island Lake First Nation in Forestry	19.2	114.7
Buffalo River Dene Nation	Dillion	Community Forestry Coordinator	24.9	57.0
Canoe Lake First Nation	Canoe Narrows	Community Co-Management Coordinator	28.3	65.0
Waterhen Lake First Nation	Waterhen Lake	Development of Management Plan for Waterhen Lake First Nation	35.3	57.0
Birch Narrows First Nation	Turnor Lake	Community Co-Management Coordinator	21.3	64.3
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations	Saskatoon	Developing a First Nation Forestry Strategy for Saskatchewan	29.1	41.1
Agency Chiefs Tribal Council	Spiritwood	Setting up a Training Program for FirstNation Logging Activities; Timber Scaling, Loader Training, Truck Driving, Log Haul Training and Cat Skinning	25.0	69.1

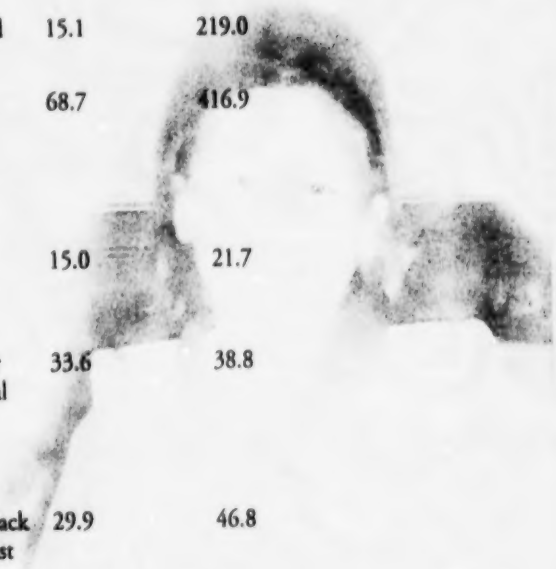
Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Kinistin First Nation	Tisdale	Developing Plans for Eco - Tourism in Areas Adjacent to the Reserve	20.0	44.0
Prince Albert Grand Council	Prince Albert	Forestry Coordinator for the Prince Albert Grand Council	59.0	67.9
Prince Albert Grand Council	Prince Albert	Forestry Development Committee	10.0	38.0
Lac La Ronge Indian Band	Lac La Ronge	Community Forestry Development Coordinator	23.9	36.9
Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation	Pelican Narrows	Forestry Sector Development	23.5	40.2
Shoal Lake First Nation	Shoal Lake	Business Plan Development	14.0	14.0
Sturgeon Lake First Nation	Sturgeon Lake	Tree Planting	17.7	20.8
Manitoba				
Split Lake First Nation	Split Lake First Nation	Band Sawmill and Chainsaw Training	12.5	13.4
Nisichawayasihk	Nelson House	Land Use Study Harvest Strategy and Plan	42.0	58.6
Waterhen	Skowmanan	Forest Operations Training	15.0	16.9
Pine Creek	Campervile	Forest Operations Training and Forest Planning	25.0	75.5
Berens River	Berens River	Loghouse Construction Training	58.0	246.4
Opaskwayak Cree	The Pas	Forest Management Plan Update	12.5	12.5
Island Lake Tribal Council	Winnipeg	Develop a Business Partnership Arrangement with Tembec/Pine Falls Paper Company	15.0	55.0
God's River	God's River	Forest Management Plan	30.0	155.0
Norway House Cree	Norway House Cree	Marketing Plan and House Designs for Log Homes	25.0	155.5
Black Sturgeon	The Pas	Logging Operations and Safety Training	35.0	63.9

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Swampy Cree	The Pas	Conference Attendance for First Nations	17.0	17.0
Swampy Cree	The Pas	Technology Transfer to Manitoba First Nations	10.6	10.6
Ontario				
Aroland First Nation	Aroland	Forestry/Economic Strategy	30.1	49.8
Chippewas of Georgina Island	Georgina Island	Forestry Economic Development	13.8	30.7
Keewache-ete-min Econ.	Grassy Narrows	Forest Management Training and Planning	45.0	64.1
Lac La Croix First Nation	Lac La Croix	Joint Management Agreement	37.0	92.4
Lake Superior First Nation Development Trust	Thunder Bay	Aboriginal Resource Technician Education	21.2	32.4
Makwa Community Development Corporation	Golden Lake	Corry Lake Nursery Operations	50.5	334.6
Manitou Forest Products	Rainy River	Marketing and Business Planning	25.0	75.0
Matawa Tribal Council	Thunder Bay	Resource Unit Development	40.0	231.5
M'Chigeeng First Nation	M'Chigeeng	Management Planning and Training	26.6	66.6
McLeod-Wood Associates	Fergus	Forestry Issues Paper and Planning	5.2	5.2
Michipocoten First Nation	Michipicoten	Lumber Mill Worker Training	30.0	392.0
Mississauga First Nation	Mississauga	Forest Business Plan	21.5	192.1

Photographer: Michael Archer, Kunuxa Kinbasket Tribal Council, BC

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Mitigaawaaki Marketing Cooperation	North Shore	Harvest Company Planning	32.0	114.6
Moose Band Development Corporation	Moose Cree	Crown Forest Licence Planning	40.0	80.3
M'tiwa-ki Services	Birch Island	Fire Crew Group-Contracting	36.0	86.5
Naicatchewenin First Nation	Naicatchewenin	Harvest Company Planning	35.0	226.4
Noopimiing Anokeewin Incorporated	Wabigoon	Timber Crown Licence Planning	38.5	78.5
North Shore Tribal Council	Blind River	Forestry Services/Business Development	40.0	305.3
Ojibways of Onigaming	Onigaming	Forestry Business Planning	9.4	17.6
Rocky Bay First Nation	Rocky Bay	Forestry Planning/Training Program	35.0	724.2
Wabaseemoong First Nation	Wabaseemoong	Harvest Training, Business Development	35.0	157.6
Wahgoshig First Nation	Wahgoshig	Forestry Business Planning/Training	25.0	88.7
Wahnapitae First Nation	Wahnapitae	Forestry Business Planning/Training	20.0	71.0
Whitefeather Economic Corp.	Pikangikum	Crown Forest Licence Planning	30.4	52.3
Whitefish Lake First Nation	Whitefish Lake	Forestry Business Planning	30.0	100.0
Wikwemikong Unceded	Wikwemikong	Forestry Business Planning	11.2	22.0
Windigo Tribal Council	Cat Lake, Slate Falls	Industry Partnership Development	35.0	65.0
Wolf House Traders	Serpent River	Tree Nursery Planning	2.3	3.8

Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Abitibiwinni	Business Proposal Validation Study and Development of a Business Plan	16.7	130.9
Algonquins	Development of an Algonquin First Nations Regional Forest Authority	21.2	153.0
Barriere Lake	Development of a Business Plan and Communication Plan	15.1	219.0
Betsiamites	On-Reserve Forest Management Activitiesand Analysis of the Accessibility of a Forest Territory	68.7	416.9
Essipit	Training of Technical Supervisory Personnel	15.0	21.7
Kahnawake and Kanesatake (Doncaster)	Development of a Business Plan for Sugarbush Training and Silvicultural Work on Sugarbush	33.6	38.8
Maria	Development of the Potential of Black Ash and On- and Off-Reserve Forest Activities	29.9	46.8
Kitigan Zibi	Communications Plan, Worker Training and Silvicultural Activities	46.6	144.3
Lac Simon	Secondary Processing Plant Market Study and On-Reserve Forest Management Activities	23.4	32.4
Listuguj	Wood Processing Prospects and Development of the Community's Forest	39.1	67.8
Lac St-jean	Business Plan and Training of Forest Technicians	31.0	128.2



Photographer: Nelson Claud, Red Rank First Nation, NB

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Malecites De Viger	Malecites De Viger	Realization of a Forest Management Plan for the Community Territory	2.5	3.2
Winneway Forestry Authority	Long Point	Implementation of a Business Plan and Management Strategies	16.0	111.7
Council of the Innu of Ekuanitshit	Mingan	Worker Training, On-Reserve Silvicultural Activities and Training of the Technical Team	33.4	212.1
Eenatuk Forestry Corporation	Mistassini	Management of the Large Forest of the Community of Mistassini	61.5	325.8
Natashquan Montagnais Council	Natashquan	Negotiation of a Partnership with Industry for the Management of a Timber Allocation and Processing Plant	28.7	135.1
Les Services Forestiers Opticiwan Incorporated	Obedjiwan	Development of a Communication Plan and Training of Administrative Employees	27.2	255.2
Odanak Band Council	Odanak	On-Reserve Forest Management Training Activities	18.2	141.8
Oujé-bougoumou Eenuch Association	Oujé-bougoumou	Geomatics Training	13.6	53.1
Timiskaming Band Council	Timiskaming	Training of Silviculture Workers and Forestry Technicians. Technical Forestry Services	24.8	70.1
Waswanipi Apit-see-win Cooperative	Waswanipi	On-Reserve Forest Management Activities	68.7	749.9
Les Services Forestiers Atikamek Aski	Wemotaci	On-Reserve Forest Management and Business Consolidation	52.6	121.6
New Brunswick				
Big Cove First Nation	Big Cove	Silviculture and Road Upgrade	15.0	15.0
Buctouche First Nation	Buctouche	Pre-Commercial Thinning	15.0	15.0

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Burnt Church First Nation	Burnt Church	Silviculture and Forest Management	30.0	30.0
Burnt Church First Nation	Burnt Church	Jack Pine Thinning Study	4.0	8.0
Eel Ground First Nation	Eel Ground	Medicinal Plants Within Eel Ground's Forest Lands	15.0	15.0
Eel Ground First Nation	Eel Ground	Forest Management	20.0	20.0
Eel River Bar First Nation	Eel River Bar	Aboriginal Heritage Garden	15.0	15.0
Madawaska Maliseet First Nation	Madawaska	Forest Management	20.0	20.0
Pabineau First Nation	Pabineau	Micmac Hiking Trail	8.0	8.0
Red Bank First Nation	Red Bank	Forest Management	15.0	15.0
Saint Mary's First Nation	St. Mary's	Feasibility Study - Forest Based Business	20.0	20.0
Tobique First Nation	Tobique	Enhanced Forest Management Plan	30.0	30.0
Woodstock First Nation	Woodstock	Maple Sugarbush Establishment	5.0	5.0
Nova Scotia				
Acadia	Acadia	Shelterwood, Thinning, Regen Release, Planting, Road Work, Boundary Line Maintenance, Signage	33.6	35.0
Afton First Nation	Afton	Road Work, Seedling Acquisition	7.9	8.0
Bear River First Nation	Bear River	Road and Boundary Line Maintenance, Fire Pond, Seedling Acquisition, Signage	6.6	12.0
Chapel Island First Nation	Chapel Island	Planting and Regen Release	4.8	8.0
Eskasoni First Nation	Eskasoni	Thinning, Road Work, Planting	6.4	10.0

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
Millbrook First Nation	Millbrook	Shelterwood, Thinning, Planting, Road and Boundary Maintenance, Road Construction, Signage	19.8	26.0
Membertou First Nation	Membertou	Boundary Line Maintenance, Thinning	0.5	5.0
Pictou Landing First Nation	Pictou Landing	Shelterwood, Boundary Line and Road Maintenance, Planting, Thinning, Manual Weeding	15.4	23.0
Shubenacadie First Nation	Shubenacadie	Shelterwood, Thinning, Road Work, Planting	9.0	9.0
Wagmatcook First Nation	Wagmatcook	Shelterwood, Planting, Road Work	3.3	12.0
Confederacy of Mainland Micmacs	Truro	Program Delivery (Technical and Supervisory)	60.3	N/A
Prince Edward Island				
Lennox Island First Nation	Lennox Island	Community Consultations	10.9	25.4
Newfoundland				
Miawpukek Band	Conne River	Forest Inventory at Conne River	2.2	2.2
Miawpukek Band	Conne River	Silviculture and Christmas Tree Stand Development	8.7	15.0
Yukon Territory				
First Nation Forestry Program Management Committee	Whitehorse	Forest Inventory Field Techniques (Module 1) Training	18.8	18.8

Proponent	Community	Project Title	FNFP Contributions $000's	Total Project Value $000's
First Nation Forestry Program Management Committee	Whitehorse	Merged Forest Strategy	33.8	37.6
First Nation Forestry Program Management Committee	Whitehorse	Fire Suppression Training	41.0	41.0
First Nation Forestry Program Management Committee	Whitehorse	Yukon First Nation Management Committee Meetings	15.4	15.4
Northwest Territories				
Sahtu Dene	Sahtu Dene	Portable Sawmill Training	18.0	9.7
Jean Marie River Dene	Jean Marie River Dene	Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Mapping	9.5	22.5
Lutsel K'e	Lutsel K'e	Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Mapping	13.0	53.4
Gwich'in Tribal Council	Inuvik	Long Term Monitoring of Biological Diversity and Forest Health	11.3	28.8
Akaitcho Territory Tribal Council	Fort Resolution	Forest Inventory Training	15.0	22.9
Dogrib Treaty 11 Council	Rae-edzo	Forest Fire Succession Crew Training	16.3	35.6
Liidlii Kue	Fort Simpson	Land Use Planning	9.0	58.5
Hay River Dene Band	Hay River	Northern Forest - Northern Challenges Conference October 5-8, 1998, Hay River, NWT	10.0	10.0

Annexes

Annex I – Forestry Glossary[1]

Adaptive Management Area (AMA): Stands or forest types that require similar management practices and are grouped as one unit for the purposes of silviculture management. Aire de gestion adaptée

Afforestation: The establishment of a tree crop on an area from which it has always or very long been absent. Where such establishment fails and is repeated, the latter may properly be termed "reafforestation." See also Reforestation. Reboisement

Agroforestry: A collective name for land-use systems and practices in which trees and shrubs are deliberately integrated with non-woody crops and/or animals on the same land area for ecological and economic purposes. Agroforesterie

Annual allowable cut (AAC): The amount of timber that is permitted to be cut annually from a particular area. AAC is used as the basis for regulating harvest levels to ensure a sustainable supply of timber. Possibilité annuelle de coupe (PAC)

Anthropogenic emission: Emission caused by human activities (e.g., burning fossil fuels or setting fires to clear forest land for agricultural purposes). Émission anthropique

Anthropogenic removal: Removal resulting from human activities (e.g., planting trees). Réduction anthropique

Arboreal: Relating to the cultivation of trees. Arboricole

Arboretum: A botanical tree garden where trees are maintained for display purposes. Arboretum

Area regenerating: Includes areas that have been harvested recently (less than 10 years ago), and areas depleted by such natural disturbances as fire, insects and disease. Superficie en régénération

Bacillus thuringiensis var. kustaki: A biological insecticide developed in Canada. This natural bacterium, which occurs in soils, is sprayed on forests to combat damaging insects. Bacillus thuringiensis

Biodiversity (biological diversity): Refers to the variety of life on 3 different levels: the variety of ecosystems (ecosystem diversity), the variety of species (species diversity) and the variety within species (genetic diversity). Biodiversité (diversité biologique)

Biomass: The dry weight of all organic material, living or dead, above or below the soil surface. Biomasse

Boreal forest: One of 3 main forest zones in the world; it is located in northern regions and is characterized by the predominance of conifers. Forêt boréale

Buffer: A strip of land where disturbances are not allowed, or are closely monitored, ton preserve aesthetic and other qualities adjacent to roads, trails, waterways, and recreation sites. Zone tampon

Canopy: The more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the crowns of adjacent trees. Couvert forestier

Chain of custody: The process of monitoring the production and distribution of goods from the forest to the end-product, i.e., tracing the origin of the product. Continuité de possession

1 From "State of the Forest" reports as provided on the Canadian Forest Service web site: www.nrcan.gc.ca

Clearcutting: A forest management method that involves the complete felling and removal of a stand of trees. Clearcutting may be done in blocks, strips, or patches. Coupe à blanc

Commercial forest: Forest land that is able to grow commercial timber within an acceptable time frame. Forêt d'intérêt commercial

Coniferous: Refers to a forest stand or category of trees or bush that is popularly called 'evergreen.' The wood of conifers is commercially known as 'softwood.' Conifère

Convention: A legally binding agreement, often among many parties. Convention Crown land: Public land that is managed by the national or provincial/territorial government. Terre de la Couronne

Deforestation: Clearing an area of forest for another long-term use. Déboisement

Desertification: The transformation of once-productive arid and semi-arid areas into deserts through prolonged drought or continued mismanagement of land and water resources. Désertification

Ecodistrict: A part of an ecoregion characterized by distinctive geologic, soil, water, fauna and land use. Écodistrict

Ecological land classification: A process of delineating and classifying ecologically distinctive areas based on geologic, landform, soil, vegetative, climatic, wildlife, water and human factors. This holistic approach to land classification can be applied incrementally, from site-specific ecosystems to very broad ecosystems. This system provides for seven levels of generalization; ecozones, ecoprovinces, ecoregions, ecodistricts, ecosections, ecosites and ecoelements. Classification écologique des terres

Ecoregion: A part of a province characterized by distinctive regional ecological factors, including climate, physical geography, vegetation, soil, water, fauna and land use. Écorégion

Ecosystem: A dynamic system of plants, animals, and other organisms, together with the non-living components of the environment, functioning as an interdependent unit. Écosystème

Ecosystem integrity: The quality of a natural unmanaged or managed ecosystem in which the natural ecological processes sustain the function, composition and structure of the system. Intégrité de l'écosystème

Ecozone: An area of the Earth's surface that is representative of a broad-scale ecological unit characterized by particular abiotic (non-living) and biotic (living) factors. Écozone

Edge habitat: A loosely defined type of habitat that occurs at the boundary between two different habitat types. Typically, edge habitats share characteristics with both adjacent habitat types and have particular transitional characteristics that are important to wildlife. Habitat de lisière

Endangered species: Species that are threatened with imminent extinction; includes species whose numbers or habitats have been reduced to critical levels. Espèce en danger de disparition

Environmental assessment: A process designed to contribute pertinent environmental information to the decision-making process of forest management and other resource projects and programs. Évaluation environnementale

Even-aged forest: A forest stand or type in which relatively small age differences (10–20 years) exist between individual trees. Équienne; Forêt équienne

Extirpated species/extirpation: Refers to the local extinction of a species that is no longer found in a locality or country, but exists elsewhere in the world. Espèce extirpée/extirpation; Espèce disparue/disparition

Falldown: A situation in which second-growth forests provide less timber than the original forests. Exploitation Secondaire

Fauna: A general term for all forms of animal life characteristic of a region, period or special environment. Faune

Featured-species management: A type of wildlife management that does not attempt to manage for all species, but selects a few species of particular concern or interest (e.g., big game species or endangered species) and aims management programs at them. With respect to habitat, it is generally assumed that providing habitat for these species provides habitat for other species as well. Gestion axée sur les espèces

Feller-Buncher: A self-propelled machine used to fell trees by shearing them off near the ground using a hydraulic apparatus. Some models also strip limbs and bunch the logs for later pickup. Abatteuse-groupeuse

Flora: A general term for all forms of plant life characteristic of a region, period or special environment. Flore

Forest regions classification: A process of delineating large geographic areas according to landform and climate, associated with broad variations in overall forest composition. Classification des régions forestières

Forest type: A group of forest areas or stands whose similar composition (species, age, height, and density) differentiates it from other such groups. Type forestier

Global warming: The rise in temperature of the Earth's atmosphere due to the greenhouse effect (the retention of the sun's energy by the atmosphere due to the build-up of CO2 and other gases that are the bi-product of industrial activities). Réchauffement planétaire

Group-selection method: A method of regenerating uneven-aged stands in which trees are removed in small groups. Jardinage par groupes

Guild management: A method of management by which species are assembled into groups based on similarities in their habitat requirements. One species is selected to indicate the group; conserving the habitat of that particular species ensures the conservation of other members of the guild. Gestion par association

Habitat: The environment in which a population or individual lives; includes not only the place where a species is found, but also the particular characteristics of the place (e.g., climate or the availability of suitable food and shelter) that make it especially well suited to meet the life cycle needs of that species. Habitat

Hardwood(s): Trees that lose their leaves in autumn; also refers to the wood produced by these trees. Hardwoods belong to the botanical division Angiospermae (now Magnoliophyta) and are the dominant type of tree in the deciduous forest. Feuillus

Heritage forests: Proposed name for the highly protected sites within Canada's forest land. These sites, designated by federal and provincial agencies, are classified according to the World Conservation Union categories and are protected by legislation from commercial harvesting. Forêts patrimoniales

Home-range size: An individual species' requirement for space. Both the size of an organism and its lifestyle determine its space requirements. Domaine vital

Integrated resource management: A holistic approach to resource management that entails the management of 2 or more resources (e.g., water, soil, timber, pasture, wildlife, and recreation) and that integrates the values of the community into the design of policies or projects to use and sustain these resources in perpetuity. Gestion intégrée des ressources

Inventory (forest): A survey of a forest area to determine such data as area, condition, timber, volume and species for a specific purpose, such as planning, purchasing, evaluating, managing or harvesting. Inventaire (forestier)

Landscape: Areas of land that are distinguished by differences in landforms, vegetation, land use, and aesthetic characteristics. Paysage

Lichen: An algae and a fungus growing in symbiotic association on solid surfaces such as rocks or tree bark. Lichen

Light framing lumber: Lumber that is 5 to 10 cm thick and 5 to 10 cm wide. It is used in a large variety of general construction applications. Bois à charpente légère

Management plan: A detailed long-term plan for a forested area. It contains inventory and other resource data. Plan d'aménagement

Microorganisms: Microscopic one- or multi-celled organisms, such as bacteria, viruses, yeasts, algae, fungi and protozoans. Microorganismes

Mixedwoods: Trees belonging to either of the botanical groups Gymnospermae or Angiospermae that are substantially intermingled in stands. Peuplement mixte

Model forest: A forest or designated area including forests and woodland for which an integrated management plan is created and implemented to achieve multiple objectives on a sustainable basis. Forêt modèle

Multiple forest use: A system of resource use where the forest resources in a given land unit serve more than one user. Utilisation intégrée de la forêt

Niche environment: The unique environment used to sustain the existence of an organism or species. Niche (écologique)

Non-commercial tree species: A tree species for which there is currently no market. Espèce d'arbre non commerciale

Old-growth forest: A stand dominated by mature or overmature trees that has not been significantly influenced by human activity. The stand can contain various ages and species of vegetation. Vieille forêt (ou de première venue)

Open forests: Proposed name for the natural forests commonly found in northern Canada. These forests are a mixture of wetlands and small trees, occasionally interspersed with highly productive forests. Forêts claires

Oriented strand board (OSB): Panels made from narrow strands of fibre oriented lengthwise and crosswise in layers, with a resin binder. Depending on the resin used, OSB can be suitable for interior or exterior applications. Panneau de particules orientées

Overmature: Tree or stand that has passed the age of maturity where the rate of growth has diminished and the trees are weakened. Suranné

Overstorey: The upper canopy of a forest, typically formed by the branches and leaves of trees. Étage dominant

Ozone layer: A form of oxygen (O3) formed naturally in the upper atmosphere by a photochemical reaction with solar ultraviolet radiation and a major agent in the formation of smog. Couche d'ozone

Patch cutting: The removal of all of the trees in a stand. The same as clearcutting, except that the area involved is smaller. Exploitation par blocs

Pathogen: A microscopic organism or virus directly capable of causing disease. Pathogéne

Pest: An organism capable of causing material damage. Forest pests include insects, tree diseases, and noxious fungi. Ravageur

Photosynthesis: Formation of carbohydrates in the chlorophyll-containing tissues of plants exposed to light. Photosynthèse

Plantation: A stand of trees that has been grown through direct seeding or by planting seedlings. Plantation

Population: A group of organisms of the same species inhabiting a particular geographical area at a particular time. Population

Protected area: An area protected by legislation, regulation, or land-use policy to control the level of human occupancy or activities. Categories of protected areas include protected landscapes, national parks, multiple-use management areas, and nature (wildlife) reserves. Aire protégée

Protection forests: Proposed name for forests protected from harvesting by policy. These forests usually protect sensitive sites, such as watersheds and steep slopes. Forêts de protection

Protocol: A legally binding sub-agreement of a framework convention or treaty. Protocole

Provenance: The geographical area or place of origin of a collection of genetic material (generally in the form of seed, pollen or cuttings) for which the process of natural selection has resulted in some common or shared population characteristics. Provenance

Pulp: Wood chips that have been ground mechanically into fibers and are used for the production of inexpensive paper, such as newsprint, or that have been chemically treated to remove the lignin and are used to manufacture higher quality papers. Pâte

Reforestation: The reestablishment of trees on denuded forest land by natural or artificial means, such as planting and seeding. See also Afforestation Reboisement

Regeneration: The continuous renewal of a forest stand. Natural regeneration occurs gradually with seeds from adjacent stands or with seeds brought in by wind, birds, or animals. Artificial regeneration involves direct seeding or planting. Régénération

Riparian forest: At a large scale, it is the band of forest that has a significant influence on a stream ecosystem or is significantly affected by the stream. At a smaller scale, it is the forest at the immediate water's edge, where some specialized plants and animals form a distinct community. Forêt ripicole

Rotation: The cycle of regeneration, growth and harvesting of a single crop. Révolution

Roundwood: Round sections of tree stems with or without bark, such as logs and bolts. Bois rond

Second growth forest: A forest that has developed (naturally or artificially) following the removal of the original virgin forest. Forêt de seconde venue

Seed banks: Storage facilities where seedlots (or bags of seed) are stored. Banques de semences

Seed orchards: A plantation of trees (pre-selected on the basis of their superior genetic traits) that has been isolated from genetically inferior outside sources, and intensively managed to improve the genotype and produce abundant seed crops. Verger à graines

Seed tree cutting: Leaving a scattered number of trees on a site to provide a portion of the seeds needed for regeneration. See also Seed-tree method Mode de régénération par coupe rase avec semenciers

Seed-tree method: A method of regenerating a forest stand that involves removing all of the trees from an area in a single cut, except for a small number of seed-bearing trees. The objective is to create an even-aged stand. See also Seed tree cutting. Mode de régénération par coupe rase avec semenciers

Seeding felling: A method of regeneration involving the removal of trees in a mature stand (to open the canopy) with the exception of a small number of see trees. The objective is to produce an even-aged stand. Coupe d'ensemencement

Selection cutting: Annual or periodic cutting of trees in a stand in which the trees vary markedly in age. The objective is to recover the yield and maintain an uneven-aged stand structure, while creating the conditions necessary for tree growth and seedling establishment. Differs from selective cutting, in which the most valuable trees are harvested without regard for the condition of the residual stand. Coupe de jardinage

Shelterwood cutting: A method of harvesting that involves 2 cuts: the first cut leaves trees at intervals to provide the canopy and species required for natural regeneration; the second cut harvests the resulting new crop of trees (which are fairly even-aged). Coupes progressives

Shelterwood systems: A method of harvesting that involves two cuts: the first cut leaves trees at intervals to provide the canopy and species required for natural regeneration; the second cut harvests the resulting new crop of trees (which are fairly even-aged). Mode de régénération par coupe progressives

Shortwood harvesting: A harvesting method by which a tree is cut down, delimbed and cutinto 1.3-, 2.6-, 3.2-, or 4.8-metre lengths before being transported to a mill. Exploitation en bois court

Silviculture: The theory and practice of controlling the establishment, composition, growth, and quality of forest stands. Can include basic silviculture (e.g., planting and seeding) and intensive silviculture (e.g., site rehabilitation, spacing, and fertilization). Sylviculture

Single tree selection: The selection of individual trees for harvesting. Coupe sélective par arbre

Softwood(s): Cone-bearing trees with needles or scale-like leaves; also refers to the wood produced by these trees. Softwoods belong to the botanical division Gymnospermae (now Pinophyta) and are the predominant tree type in coniferous forests. Résineux (conifères)

Snag: A dead, but standing tree from which the leaves and most of the branches have fallen. Chicot

SPF (spruce-pine-fir): Canadian woods of similar characteristics that are grouped as one lumber type for production and marketing purposes. SPF species range in color from white to pale yellow. EPS (épinette-pin-sapin)

Spruce budworm: An insect that damages spruce and fir trees. Eggs of the spruce budworm are laid on branches by an adult moth. Young budworms feed primarily on the growth of the tree branch, but also eat older needles. Defoliation results, killing the tree. Tordeuse des bourgeons de l'épinette

Stocked forest: Land supporting tree growth. In this context, tree growth includes seedlings and saplings. Forêt regénérée

Succession: Changes in the species composition of an ecosystem over time, often in a predictable order. In forests, it refers to the sequence of one community of plants gradually replacing another. Succession

Sustainable (forest) development: The development of forests to meet current needs without prejudice to their future productivity, ecological diversity or capacity for regeneration. Développement durable des forêts

Sustained-yield forestry: The yield of defined forest products of specific quality and in projected quantity that a forest can provide continuously at a given intensity of management. Foresterie à rendement soutenu

Temperate forest: The woodland of rather mild climatic areas; composed mainly of deciduous trees. Forêt tempérée

Thinning: A partial cutting or spacing operation made in an immature forest stand to accelerate the growth of the remaining trees. Éclaircie

Threatened species: A species that is likely to become endangered if certain pressures are not reversed. Espèce menacée

Treaty: A legally binding agreement, often between two parties. Traité

Tropical forest: A tropical woodland with an annual rainfall of a least 250 cm; marked by broadleaved evergreen trees forming a continuous canopy. Forêt tropicale

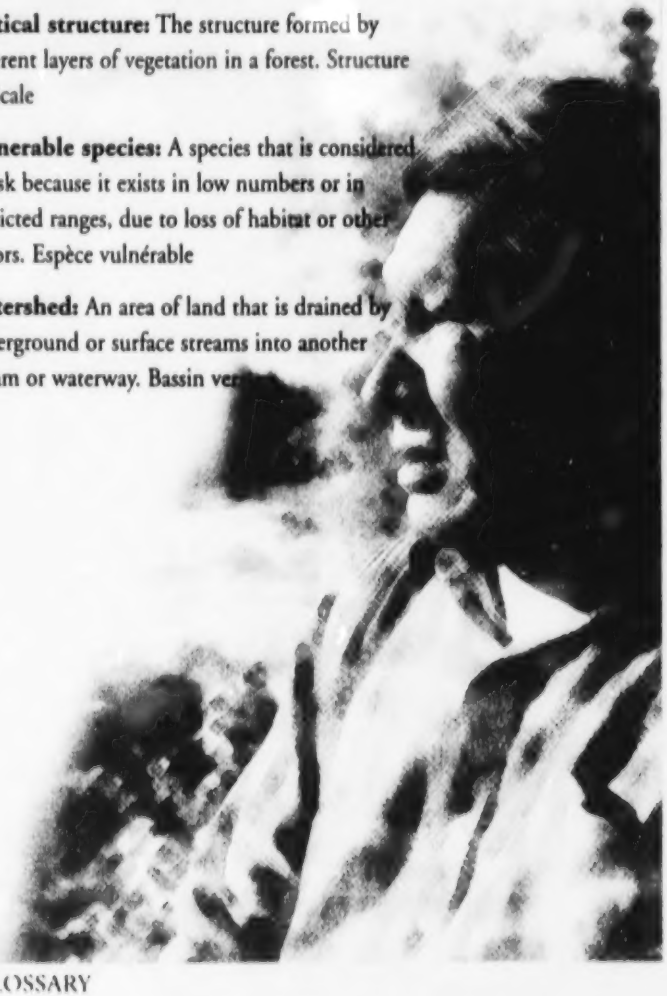
Understorey: The lower level of vegetation in a forest. Usually formed by ground vegetation(mosses, herbs and lichens), herbs and shrubs, but may also include subdominant trees. Sous-étage

Vertical diversity: A term used to describe forest structure, proceeding vertically through a forest canopy. Diversité verticale

Vertical structure: The structure formed by different layers of vegetation in a forest. Structure verticale

Vulnerable species: A species that is considered at risk because it exists in low numbers or in restricted ranges, due to loss of habitat or other factors. Espèce vulnérable

Watershed: An area of land that is drained by underground or surface streams into another stream or waterway. Bassin ver



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